Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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**POLL RESULTS**

**Did you register to vote in the upcoming CNMI delegate election?**

Yes-**29**

No-**33**

*Sunday, October 05, 2008*

**6 DAYS** without a government budget for FY 2009

INSIDE

**Uphill Battle**
The onus is on Republican John McCain to turn the race around under exceptionally challenging circumstances–and his options are limited.

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**Simpson Convicted**
In a city where luck means everything, O.J. Simpson came out the big loser–and his unlucky number in a case full of bizarre twists was 13.

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Palms Resort eyes housing development plan. **PAGE 2**
Former owners of defunct nightclubs settle Labor case. **PAGE 5**

# Senate poised to reject House-approved budget

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate is poised to offer a substitute bill to replace the budget legislation passed by the House of Representatives.

The Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, according to its chairwoman, Sen. Maria T. Pangelinan, is preparing a measure that will include an itemized appropri-

Pangelinan

*See SENATE on Page 4*

## On Rota, community to finish shipwreck cleanup

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

More the two decades ago, the *Nam Sung*, a fishing vessel, wrecked on Rota's pristine coral reefs in a violent storm, yet now the island's residents are gearing up to complete a long-running cleanup of the ship later this year.

"Anytime a vessel of this magnitude wrecks, you have the potential for pollution," William Pendergrass, chief of Rota's Coastal Resources Management Office said in an interview last week. "You can have hazardous materials, lubrication oil, diesel fuel, and other contaminants that can leak into the wa-

WILLIAM PENDERGRASS

The rusted hull of *Nam Sun* sits on this Rota beach, above. A crane finally lifts this section of the 270-ton, 165-foot fishing vessel after the boat was cut into pieces by blowtorches, inset.

*See ON ROTA on Page 4*

## Rice says US not trying to undermine Russia

By ROBERT BURNS
AP MILITARY WRITER

**ASTANA, Kazakhstan** (AP)—Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Sunday rejected any suggestion that U.S. ef-

*See RICE on Page 4*

AP

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice gestures during a joint press conference with Indian Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee in New Delhi, India, Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008.

## Search finds Bell still swimming

### Coast Guard asks public to file proper float plan to avoid undue risk to responders

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rescue boats and two helicopters were dispatched to locate 70-year-old swimmer Jim Bell, who was later spotted yesterday morning still swimming east of Tinian beach line.

Bell, a retired U.S. Navy, informed the rescuers he wanted to continue swimming.

The incident prompted the U.S. Coast Guard in Guam to strongly

Bell

*See SEARCH on Page 4*

# Local

**SUNSET FUN**
Children enjoy their afternoon playing on top of a canoe while the sun sets at the Kilili Beach Park in Susupe.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

## Palms Resort eyes housing development plan

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

As Palms Resort's owners work to finalize a new management deal with a major international hotel chain and begin the early stages of designing a new spa complex, they are also eying plans to build a new housing development across the street.

In an interview Friday, Hiroyuki Saito, Palms Resort's general manager, said the hotel has developed a master plan for the area surrounding its property that includes a housing development with its own self-contained electrical system and purified water supply, a move intended to draw tenants arriving from off-island locales.

"This island is very critical in terms of utilities needs like water," said Saito. "Many of the Americans who come here are very uncomfortable with the situation."

The solution, he added, is "a new type of residential housing, affordable residential housing" with its own utility systems that would also come with discounts for tenants on the use of the resort's facilities across the street, such as its pool and spa.

"For us, it would create a stable revenue stream and for the residents, they would have the total amenities that they want," he said.

And the pending federal takeover of local immigration rules could draw scores of government employees to the CNMI who might want the type of housing Palms Resort is planning to build.

"Speaking about the near future, as the federalization gets implemented next year, we're pretty sure that a lot of federal immigration and labor staff from the states will come in and Saipan doesn't have much to provide them in terms of pure water and 24-hour electricity," he said. "I think this is what Saipan wants right now. We have to have a development that makes sense for the CNMI."

Meanwhile, Saito said Palms Resort is planning to build a "spa park" on its grounds in a bid to attract more foreign tourists to the CNMI. The park would transform the resort's botanical garden, adding a dozen Jacuzzis, natural rocks, and water features.

The spa plan comes as the resort is now talking with an as yet unnamed international hotel chain—rumored to be Hilton—on a management deal that would increase its profile by giving a major boost to its marketing campaign. Saito declined to comment on the deal.

However, to complete the deal, Saito said the resort's staff is also planning other upgrades and renovations to meet the hotel chain's standards and new federal regulations.

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# NMC asks for more time to submit annual report

Northern Marianas College has asked the Legislature for more time to submit its annual report, saying it was too busy solving its accreditation problems.

The law requires NMC to provide an annual report to the Legislature on the details of the programs funded by the central government. The annual report is due before Sept. 30 of each year.

NMC president Carmen Fernandez in a letter to Senate President Pete Reyes and House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios asked for an extension on the submission to Jan. 31, 2009.

"As you know, the college has been working diligently to complete the work required to avert our show cause status," she said.

Earlier this year, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges' Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges ordered NMC to provide reasons—or "show cause"—the college's accreditation should not be terminated. The show cause order set a timeline for NMC to submit reports to the accrediting agency.

According to Fernandez, there is still a tremendous amount of work to be done to prepare the report due for submission to WASC-ACCJC on Oct. 15. After that report, the college must prepare the campus for a visit by WASC-ACCJC officials, set for Nov. 3-5, 2008. Following the visit, the college will have to prepare a supplemental report to strengthen or update the Oct. 15 report.

On. Jan. 7, 2009, the WASC-ACCJC will have a meeting, where they will decide based on the recommendation of the visiting team, whether to reaffirm or terminate NMC's accreditation.

"We appreciate your support throughout these difficult times for the college," Fernandez told the Legislature. "The management team and I have been working seven days a week and late nights to ensure that all the work is complete and on schedule. During these months leading up to January 2009, we must stay completely focused on accreditation work."

NMC found itself on the brink of losing its accreditation after it failed to address problems pointed out by the WASC-ACCJC for many years.

Accreditation is important because it proves to the public that a college meets standards of quality, and allows students to access financial aid programs. In addition, many institutions look at accreditation when deciding whether to allow transfer of credits. In some cases, loss of accreditation could lead to closure of the college. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

# AGO prosecutes teenager who allegedly stole govt property

The Attorney General's Office has charged a teenager who stole air-conditioning condensers belonging to the government.

Marco T. Castro, 18, was charged with theft.

Chief Prosecutor Kevin Lynch stated in the charging information that on Aug. 24, 2008 Castro unlawfully took the property (air conditioning condensers) of the government.

No other details were given.

In other court news, the AGO charged two persons for assaulting another man.

Jin Koo Cho and Jin Wook were charged with assault and battery.

Cho and Wook allegedly repeatedly hit Solemon Solemon on March 2, 2008.

The two defendants were summoned to appear and answer the charges in the Superior Court on Oct. 14 at 9am.

The AGO also charged a man for assaulting another person last year.

Marley Defngin Buchui was charged with assault and battery for hitting Mr. Sohel Mohammed in the face on May 4, 2007.

Buchui was summoned to appear and answer the charges in court on Oct. 14 at 9am. No other details were indicated in court documents. ***(Ferdie De La Torre)***

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# China-Papua New Guinea trade thriving

## Culture, education, and health exchanges also positive

**PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea** (The National)—Trade between China and Papua New Guinea continues to grow, with the total volume of bilateral trade for the first half of this year recording US$488 million (PGK126 million), Chinese Ambassador to PNG Wei Ruixing said.

Mr. Wei, when disclosing these figures at a reception marking the 59th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, at the Chinese Embassy on Tuesday night, said this was an increase of 38 percent from the previous year.

He said that these figures would soar with the Ramu nickel mine project due to start operations next year.

"The total volume of our bilateral trade for the first half of this year recorded US$488 million, an increase of 38 percent.

"More and more reliable Chinese enterprises have been investing in PNG, with about US$11 million last year," he said.

"PNG has been the largest trade partner and investment destination country of China among the South Pacific island countries during the past few years."

Wei said with the Ramu nickel mine project to be completed and put into operation in the second half of next year, the economic cooperation between China and PNG would be lifted to a higher level.

He said exchanges and cooperation between the two countries in the fields of culture, education, health, agriculture, fisheries and others had also yielded fruitful results.

As examples, he cited the 26 PNG students who were granted Chinese government scholarships to pursue their degree studies in China.

More than 50 government officials and technical personnel of different sectors were also being trained in China for various programs while the fourth Chinese medical team, dispatched by the Chinese government, was due to arrive in Port Moresby next month to provide continuous medical services to the Papua New Guineans, he said.

Wei also referred to a series of Chinese government-aided projects such as the completion of teachers' houses and students' dormitories at Vudal University and Lae fish processing factory.

"Further development of China-PNG friendly and cooperative relations is in conformity with the common interests of the two peoples," he added.

He said the Chinese government was ready to work with the PNG Government and people to promote the mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries.

The Chinese government would also work to expand and deepen the mutually beneficial cooperation in all fields and continue mutual support and sound cooperation in international and regional affairs so as to ensure stable and sound bilateral relations between the two countries in the years and decades to come, Wei said.

# Qarase's party files suit over fiji charter

**SUVA, Fiji** (Fiji Times)—The ousted Soqosoqo ni Duavata ni Lewenivanua [SDL] party yesterday filed a legal action asking the court to declare the establishment of the National Council for Building a Better Fiji and its work as unlawful.

Ousted Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase said the legal action was filed against the interim Government, the State, interim Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed Khaiyum, the co-chair of the People's Charter and the secretary of the NCBBF.

Mr. Qarase said they also wanted the court to declare that the intention of the interim government to act on the recommendation of the NCBBF, and its charter, especially to introduce changes contrary to the constitution, was beyond its powers and therefore unlawful.

He said they had asked the court to direct the interim regime to cease all work related to the NCBBF and the People's Charter.

He also said the extension of the Charter consultation process would work against the interim government because it would give the three political parties (SDL, National Federation Party and United People's Party) and other organizations opposed to the Charter more time to explain the demerits of the Charter in detail.

Qarase said the legal action was taken against the interim government after the party had exhausted all requests to the interim regime for the establishment of a political forum to resolve the political crisis.

SDL lawyer Niko Nawaikula said the party's ex parte case hearing is on October 9. He said he would ask the court to direct the regime to refrain from making any changes to the Constitution.

Mr. Nawaikula said their case would highlight the quality of advice given to the interim regime by the interim Attorney-General.

## RICE

*From Page 1*

forts to build closer ties to this former Soviet republic are meant to undermine Russian influence in Central Asia.

"This is not a zero-sum game," she told reporters flying with her to the Kazakh capital. U.S. gains need not mean Russian losses, she said.

"First of all, Kazakhstan is an independent country. It can have friendships with whomever it wishes," she said. "That's perfectly acceptable in the 21st century, so we don't see and don't accept any notion of a special sphere of influence" for Russia in this region.

Rice was scheduled to meet with President Nursultan Nazarbayev; her Kazakhstan counterpart, Foreign Minister Marat Tazhin; and Prime Minister Karim Masimov.

Rice is leading U.S. efforts to court energy-rich Kazakhstan.

The top U.S. diplomat, who was in India on Saturday, planned to stress Kazakhstan's potential as an energy supplier while democracy and human rights seemed likely to take a back seat

Nazarbayev, the country's autocratic ruler, has maintained a military alliance and close relations with Russia.

He also has kept a door open to the West and looked to develop new export routes to Europe for Kazakhstan's vast energy resources. But that balancing act has been in doubt since Russia's invasion of Georgia in August, which threatened to close off the corridor for pipelines around Russia.

Since Russian forces pushed close to Georgia's capital before pulling back, the Bush administration has tried to signal its commitment to countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia. Last month, Vice President Dick Cheney traveled to Georgia, Ukraine and Azerbaijan, another important energy exporter in the region.

The administration does not want to be seen as the one "that lost Eurasia and the Caspian region," said Ariel Cohen, an analyst at the conservative Heritage Foundation in Washington.

The United States also has sought to develop military ties with Kazakhstan as a regional power close to U.S. operations in Afghanistan. Kazakhstan's membership in a Russian-led Eurasian security bloc precludes the country from joining NATO. But it retains close contact with and regularly conducts joint military exercises with the Western alliance.

## SENATE

*From Page 1*

ations for Executive Branch agencies.

The House-approved measure provides a lump sum budget for the administration. Proponents of the idea in the House argue that the governor, who will have full authority over the $75 million budget for the Executive Branch, knows best how to manage the limited resources.

But Pangelinan says the Legislature should set specific spending guidelines precisely because general fund resources are scarce. She adds that it is the Legislature's responsibility to do so.

"The [Senate] Fiscal Affairs Committee believes that the FY 2009 appropriation must be made with care, attention to detail and, to the greatest extent possible, preserve provision of the basic services of safety, health, and education," she said. "The House abdicated from its responsibility by giving the Governor a lump sum amount and allowing him to decide how he would use the money. So the House basically approved a budget for the Executive Branch not knowing how it would be spent. In other words, they do not know what they are approving."

She adds, "The Senate is taking a different approach. My committee believes that based on review of prior budgets and the CNMI Code, this fiscal year presents challenges of a magnitude sufficient to warrant the close monitoring of spending. Unlike the House, we will have a detailed budget with a committee report that will explain our findings and final decision."

Senate President Pete P. Reyes echoed Pangelinan's views and said the House-passed budget will not clear the Senate. He also said he does not expect the House to approve the Senate substitute. The likely scenario, he said, is that the House and Senate will end up forming a joint conference committee that will resolve their differences and come up with a budget acceptable to both houses.

The House-passed budget appropriates $165.37 million in resources, including $156.7 million in projected government revenue, $5.17 million in Compact Impact aid, and $3.5 million in "unencumbered" funds from different accounts outside the general fund.

It gives the governor free rein over how to spend $75 million for the Executive Branch, but specifically bars him from using any public funds for the lawsuit he had filed against the U.S. government over the new immigration law.

## SEARCH

*From Page 1*

recommend to the public such as in Bell's case to file a proper float plan specifying an exact time and location for meeting.

The Coast Guard in a press statement said the plan should include a safety measure such as a small boat escort for such a great distance in place.

According to the Coast Guard this will avoid undue risk for responders and to ensure resources are available for actual distress cases.

The Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Guam received a report from Saipan Emergency Management Office Saturday night of a possible overdue swimmer.

The report indicated that Bell was dropped off at the Unai Obyan Beach on the southern tip of Saipan Saturday at 9:30am by friends.

The retired sailor was expected to call the same friends that night upon reaching Tinian after swimming the five-mile channel to reach an unspecified location on the west side of Tinian at an unspecified time.

Coast Guard began investigative calls to friends who might have know about Bell's whereabouts on both Saipan and Tinian.

DPS then conducted land and shoreline search on Tinian.

Saturday night, two helicopters from Helicopter Combat Squadron-Two Five where launched out of Anderson Airforce in Guam.

The two helicopters conducted two 2.5 -hour searches, circling Tinian and searching the six-mile channel from Saipan to Tinian.

According to the Coast Guard, yesterday morning the helicopter launched another search, while the 110-footer Coast Guard Cutter *Assateague* was also dispatched to assist in the search.

The helicopter and Tinian boating safety rescue boat spotted Bell yesterday at 9am, swimming inside of the east Tinian beach line.

On June 9, 2008, Bell celebrated his 70th birthday swimming the five-mile channel between Saipan and Tinian.

On July 4, 2008, he celebrated Independence Day by kicking off his swim around Saipan. He completed his last leg of swimming around the island on Sept. 20.

Bell has been practicing for his next goal—cross the Torres Strait from Papua New Guinea to the Australian mainland.

## ON ROTA

*From Page 1*

ter. So there's a real danger there."

The *Nam Sung* has sat idle on Rota's coastline since it crashed into the reef in 1982 and the rusting skeleton of its 270-ton, 165-foot long frame over the years has become an eyesore on the island's beaches. That is, until two years ago, when local authorities began planning a cleanup.

With the help of staff at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and CRM's main office on Saipan, officials on the island secured a small grant to begin the cleanup effort, which launched last year during the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup, an annual event observed worldwide.

At its start, the project saw a host of problems, including the need to tiptoe around the habitat of an endangered snail species that called the area around the shipwreck home. Later, a fire broke out on the ship during a cleanup day, prompting a short delay of the effort. Yet the primary obstacle to getting the cleanup started, said Pendergrass, was getting the manpower needed to complete the project. And that's where Rota's local residents pitched in to help.

"We had to take a Tom Sawyer approach," said Pendergrass.

Coming to the aid of the project were scores of local students and adult volunteers, including staff at the island's branch office of the Marianas Visitors Authority. Pendergrass said that without the help of Rota's community, the *Nam Sung* might have sat on the island's coast for decades to come.

The initial cleanup efforts—done in several separate events since last year—saw the *Nam Sung* cut into several pieces with blowtorches, with the bulk of the vessel taken from the water and away from the marine resources it had threatened.

"We had volunteers down in the water collecting debris and taking it away," said Pendergrass. "I really can't thank everyone enough for their hard work."

Now, once authorities can secure the necessary tools and funding, Pendergrass and his colleagues are planning to complete the cleanup later, possibly before the end of the year. Pendergrass said the schedule for the completion of the project will once again depend on the tides and the availability of the people needed to finish the work.

# 150 more Palauans needed at Iowa meatpacking plant

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The controversial meatpacking plant in Postville, Iowa is in need of 150 more Palauans, according to Minister of State Temmy Shmull of the Republic of Palau.

Shmull was the guest speaker at the 14th anniversary celebration of Palau Independence Day organized by the Palauan Community Association on Saipan at the American Memorial Park last Saturday.

He recently represented outgoing President Tommy Remengesau at the 63rd session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York from Sept. 23 to 26.

From New York, Shmull visited the Paluans who were earlier recruited to work in Agriprocessors, the Kosher meatpacking plant raided by immigration agents last May.

"They need around 300 for the slaughterhouse," he said.

This would give also a chance for Palauans on Saipan to seek employment there. Some 300 of them are living in the CNMI.

The visit he said gave him a chance to see the Palauan workers' plight and personally give morale support to them and assured them that the government of Palau is closely monitoring their situation.

Shmull said the workers are definitely in good condition and well protected by U.S. labor laws.

Asked if Palau can supply the 150 more Palauan workers being requested by the plant's management, Shmull said that is one of the problems to be settled at home.

Palau has a population of slightly over 20,000, including nonresident workers mostly from the Philippines and China.

Some 5,000 Filipino contract workers comprise the biggest bulk of employment in the private sector in Palau. Local residents are only second.

Palauans are employed in the national government, receiving a "meager" income compared to the $9 per hour that is guaranteed for every Palauan worker now employed in Postville, Iowa.

The basic pay in Palau is $2.50 per hour.

Palauan nationals can travel and even live in the U.S. mainland with easy processing of travel documents, a privilege under the Compact of Free Association signed between the governments of Palau and the United States in 1994. Also under the Compact, Palauans can join the U.S. Armed Forces without going through a difficult process.

Earlier U.S. immigration officers raided the meatpacking plant and alleged that the plant had been employing illegal aliens, particularly from Mexico and other South American countries as far as Somalia.

The raid on the nation's largest kosher meatpacking plant that exposed dangerous and brutal working conditions there, was considered as the biggest ever in U.S. immigration history.

The state of Iowa accused the owner and managers of the plant with more than 9,000 counts of child labor violations.

But Shmull said that upon his visit there, the Palauans are in "very good conditions."

"I'm happy for them because they have been given the opportunity to have a job," Shmull said of the 150 workers.

He said that aside from the bigger salary, the workers are also guaranteed medical insurance, paid vacation and other social security benefits under federal regulations and labor systems.

He said this is a big impact to Palau's economy.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Palauan nationals living on Saipan listen to the speech of Minister of State Temmy Shmull, who was the guest speaker of the 14th anniversary celebration of Palau Independence Day last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.

# CHC nurses to get salary increase

The House of Representatives wants the Department of Public Health to reserve at least $150,000 of its budget for salary adjustments for nurses at the Commonwealth Health Center.

The earmark was part of the budget bill the Lower House passed on Thursday. The provision was included in line with an audit report conducted by Office of Personnel Management on DPH's nurse practitioner positions.

The audit report showed that the employees were incorrectly classified and have been awarded inappropriate salaries. The report also proposed a salary scale that could result in substantial pay increases for five nurse practitioners at DPH once their contracts have been amended.

Specific information on the pay hikes due to the affected employees was not available at press time. But the Lower House in the budget bill said that DPH must set aside a minimum $150,000 of its budget for the salary adjustments.

OPM said it developed the salary scale by comparing the salaries of local nurse practitioners with those of other advanced professionals. On an average, OPM said, a newly licensed nurse practitioner in the continental United States may receive a salary between $60,000 and $70,000. Even the Tinian Health Center pays its physician assistant and nurse practitioner an annual salary of $70,000 a year.

Under OPM's salary scale, the starting salary for a newly licensed nurse practitioner will be $48,000 to $50,000 a year. This rate gradually increases with the practitioner's years of experience. A practitioner with 20 years of experience may receive up to the $70,000 annual salary cap. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

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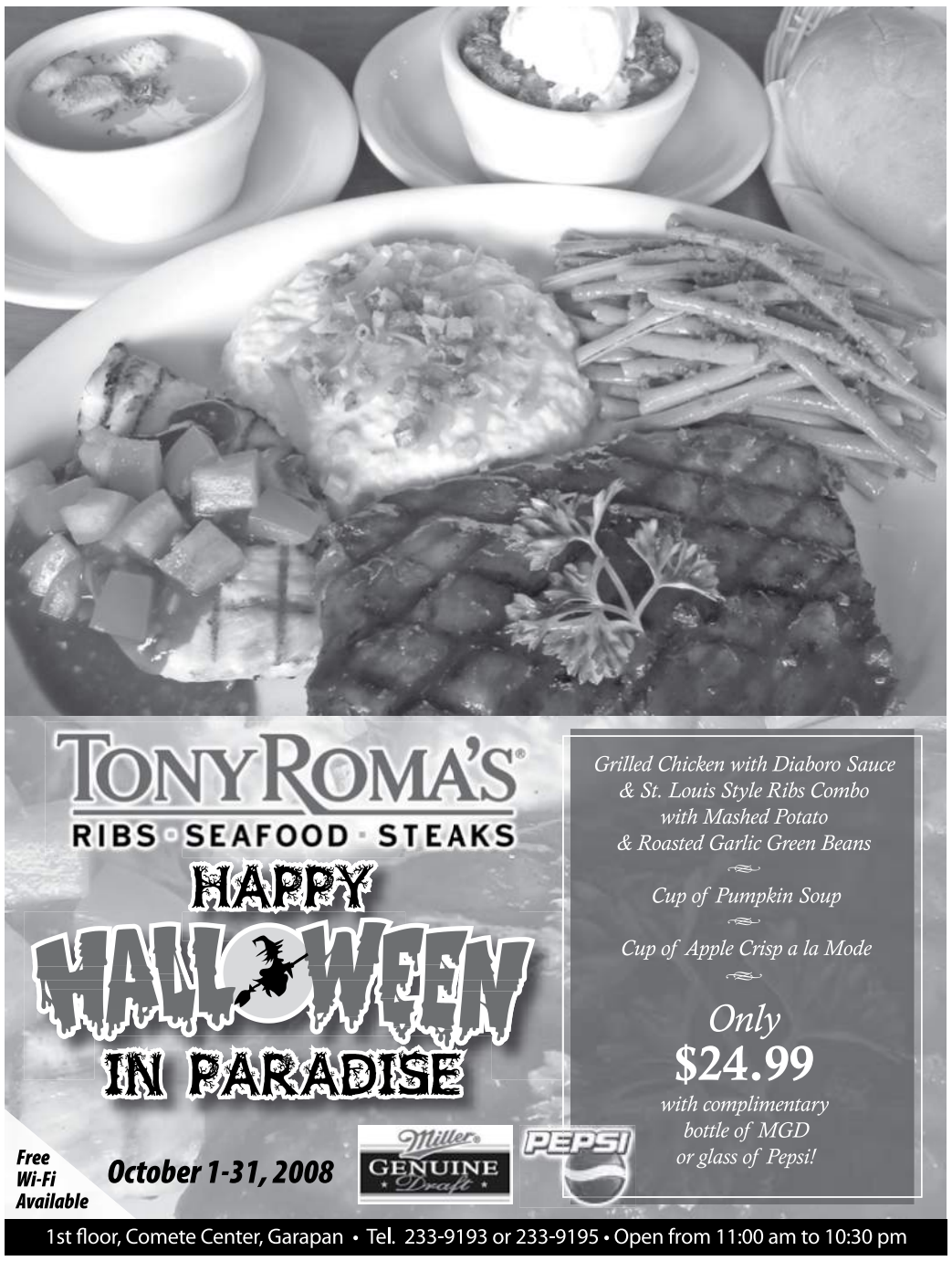


# Former owners of defunct nightclubs settle Labor case

## Checks handed to pay 25 employees mostly dancers

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The former owners of the defunct Stardust and Star Light nightclubs on Friday handed the checks for the 25 employees to settle and close the Labor case.

Attorney Robert Torres, counsel for David Atalig and Star Four Corp., gave the checks to the Department of Labor as final settlement of the case.

Eight of the 25 women came accompanied by Sister Stella Mangona to receive their checks. Sister Mangona will notify the 17 other women, who are no longer staying in the CNMI, about their checks.

The total amount of the settlement was confidential as part of the agreement. Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman, however, mentioned during Mr. Atalig's sentencing last March that the businessman agreed upon a settlement with Labor "for a substantial sum of money in the six figures."

When asked for comment about the settlement, Torres said the resolution of the labor case against couple David and Corazon Atalig and Star Four Corp. "closes a most difficult chapter for everyone in the matter."

"As we said in the sentencing, the resolution comes about as a matter of accepting responsibility and ensuring resolution," Torres told *Saipan Tribune.*

The lawyer said Mr. Atalig has appreciated the consideration of the employees and at the same time they (Ataligs) have appreciated their understanding of the case.

"We wish everyone the best in their future and we look forward to everyone moving… pass this chapter in our lives," Torres added.

Labor, on behalf of the employees mostly dancers, filed the case against the Atalig couple and Star Four Corp. for wage and hour violations and unlawful confinement.

"With the help of the Labor Enforcement and the Labor legal counsel and the Hearing Administrative Office we were able to get everyone paid," a Labor staff told *Saipan Tribune* shortly after the checks were awarded.

He said the Labor investigator, with the help of Labor enforcement officer in charge Jeffrey Camacho, came down with the computation on the unlawful confinement issue to determine the amount owed to the workers.

In April 2006, authorities arrested the Atalig couple for allegedly employing minor girls and forcing them to dance naked and other lewd things. Corazon's two sisters were also arrested.

The Atalig couple signed a plea agreement with the government. Mr. Atalig pleaded "no contest" to one count of immigration fraud. Mrs. Atalig pleaded "no contest" to four counts of aiding, abetting, and encouraging illegal entry.

Mrs. Atalig's sisters—Nilda Maniego and Priscilla D. Rulloda—pleaded "no contest" to one count of harboring of an illegal alien.

In March 2008, Wiseman ordered Mr. Atalig to spend two years and six months in prison.

In January 2008, Wiseman sentenced Mrs. Atalig to a total of 362 days in jail. In the same month, the judge suspended the imposition of sentence to Maniego and Rulloda and placed the two on probation for three years.

# Govendo: Parents should take responsibility to educate children about proper sexual conduct

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Parents in the CNMI should take responsibility in educating their children about proper sexual conduct, according to Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo.

Govendo said the message must go out within the community that young men, ages 18 and older, will face severe punishment if they engage in sexual relations with a minor.

"The loose morals that allow this society to turn a blind eye on this practice must be challenged and changed," the judge said.

Govendo said he is adamant in his belief that the best way to implement this change is for parents to take responsibility for educating their young boys and girls as to what is proper sexual conduct and what is not.

The judge made such appeal to the parents in his order that sentenced Kirk Manalo Palacios to one year in jail, without the possibility of parole, for sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

The 20-year-old Palacios was given credit for six days he already served in jail.

In June 2007, the 19-year-old defendant was arrested for allegedly sexually abusing a then 14-year-old girl at least on five occasions between April to June 2007.

Palacios was charged with five counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree. He entered a plea agreement and pleaded guilty to one count. The remaining charges were dismissed.

During the sentencing, Govendo said he agrees with the Legislature that more needs to be done to ensure the protection of the community and to adequately deter persons from engaging in sexual conduct with minors.

"The Court believes this is a case where the interests of justice and of this society will be best served by imposing a jail term that the Court believes will have a deterrent effect on the defendant upon his release, upon any potential offenders, and will serve the retribution that society demands," he said.

# PTI launches Push-to-Talk for residential customers

PTI, CNMI's wireless leader in communication and technology, introduces its newest Push-to-Talk wireless plan. Originally offered only to its business clientele, Push-to-Talk is now available for residential subscribers.

Push-to-Talk is a software technology for mobile phones that is designed to let you use your phone in real-time, direct one-to-one or one-to-many voice communication. PTI has several push-to-talk phones from which to choose, including the hip Motorola w385, the sleek Motorola L7 Sliver, and the ever-popular Motorola Razor v9.

"PTI continues to strengthen its products by offering more features and savings for an individual or family," said PTI regional marketing manager Kathryn Barry. "Even more exciting, our regional home coverage advantage will allow our customers to use push-to-talk in Tinian, Rota, and Guam without any additional cost."

Customers who sign up for Push-to-Talk will receive value added features such as Unlimited Push-to-Talk Radio, Free Unlimited PTI Wave WAP, and Free Unlimited Internet access. This offers a tremendous cost savings, especially if a customer is adding multiple users on one single account plan.

Customers may also choose to add on a calling plan or purchase a prepaid card if they want to use the phone features for local or long distance calls. ***(PTI)***

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Website: http://www.kingcar.com.tw E-mail: kingcar@kingcar.com.tw

Date: Oct. 02, 2008

**King Car Food Ind. Co., Ltd.**
**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Regarding the incident of tainted 3-in-1 instant coffees recently, King Car sincerely apologizes to all the consumers for causing any anxiety, and truly appreciates for those who support King Car for a long time.**

**King Car hereby solemnly declares that the current act of recall is restricted for "3 in 1 mixed powder" products ONLY. We also guarantee that the milk powder used in all canned coffee series products is sourced from New Zealand and Australia for over 25 years. No trace of Melamine is found in random samples after the inspections. Moreover, none of milk derivatives is used in any other items under the brand of King Car. Hence, ALL CANNED MR. BROWN COFFEES AND KING CAR TEA SERIES ARE NOT AFFECTED BY THE RECALL, AND ABSOLUTELY SAFE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.**

**King Car Food Ind. Co., Ltd.**

**/s/**
**Chief of Export Dept. Mark Weng**

# Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### October 06, 1999

**Tinian Express sails anew**
After conducting a thorough inspection of Tinian Express for six hours, U.S. Coast Guard officials flashed the go-signal for the vessel to leave Saipan Harbor at around 8:30 pm last night with some 76 passengers on board, mostly Japanese. Ferry service between Saipan and Tinian was supposed to have resumed at 5:00 pm yesterday following a court order that lifted the seizure of two vessels owned by the Tinian Shipping Company. However, the ferry schedule was delayed due to inspections aimed at ensuring the sea worthiness of the ferry.

**Tax incentives to FTZ investors opposed**
Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez yesterday expressed concern over a proposal to grant tax holiday to investors on the planned free trade zones in the Northern Marianas, saying the incentive program must be cut from 20 years to less than eight years. He said a study should be conducted by the Subcommittee on Free Trade Zone to back up the provisions in the legislation establishing these special economic sites to ensure that the Commonwealth will benefit from the plan.

**CNMI, OIA look for ways to settle differences on reimbursement**
Local officials are working closely with the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Office of Insular Affairs to reach an agreement on the reimbursement of expenditures incurred by the CNMI for sheltering and repatriating more than 600 illegal Chinese immigrants. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio said payment by the federal government in connection with the Tinian operations is "forthcoming," although he did not indicate when he expects to receive the check.

### October 06, 2000

**Hastert urged to oppose US minimum wage in the CNMI**
Saying no study has yet been made to assess the impact of extending federal minimum wage law to the CNMI, local lawmakers yesterday formally sought intervention of U.S. House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert to block attempt to press such proposal. In a resolution adopted at their session, members of the local House of Representatives prodded Mr. Hastert to oppose the application of the U.S. minimum wage to the islands.

**Major policy-change on DOLI's function splits House**
The House of Representatives yesterday set into motion a major change in existing policy on the processing of nonresident workers in the CNMI by diminishing government's oversight on the contract forged with their employer on the islands. But the move drew opposition from some of the members as they expressed fear that such a change could lead to more contract disputes and labor problems besetting the island-government.

**DPH: Do not eat land crabs in Tanapag**
The Department of Public Health yesterday asked the people to refrain from eating land crabs caught in Tanapag area as a precautionary measure after preliminary sampling results showed that five land crabs had detectable levels of polychlorinated biphenyl. DPH Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez said the PCB levels in the land crabs are below the standard established by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for fish. "These detectable levels, however, do approach the more conservative guidelines of U.S. EPA,"he added.

### October 06, 2002

**Group calls for BoS rehabilitation**
Bank of Saipan depositors urged the Superior Court not to allow the CNMI government to withdraw its money from the bank through the proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the Commonwealth Development Authority. In a letter to Superior Court Presiding Judge Edward Manibusan, Save Our Savings spokesperson Anthony Pellegrino said the CDA MOU does not appear to benefit all BoS depositors, adding that the proposal will be advantageous to the CNMI government alone.

**BoR says background check on Wright made prior to his hiring**
A comprehensive review of the performance and background of Northern Marianas College President Kenneth Wright, Ph.D., was made prior to his hiring, according to the NMC Board of Regents. Kimberly King-Hinds, in an Oct. 4 letter addressed to Saipan Rep. Stanley Torres, said the board has gained significant knowledge of the president based on his and others' accounts.

# Tonga's bid to list vessel for illegal fishing has broad support

**POHNPEI**—At the Fourth Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission this week, Tonga pursued its bid to get Taiwanese fishing vessel F/V *Chu Huai No. 638* prosecuted for illegal fishing in Tongan waters.

It was generally agreed by the Technical and Compliance Committee that the vessel would be listed on the provisional Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Vessel list (pending further development of this decision). This technical committee makes recommendations but not decisions about which vessels should be added to the WCPFC Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Vessel List. Decisions will be made about whether or not to accept these recommendations at the 5th session of WCPFC in December this year in Pusan, Korea.

The Taiwanese fishing vessel was detected to be fishing in Tonga by a New Zealand P3 Orion aircraft on Jan. 28, 2008. Reports indicate it had been fishing without a license from Jan. 15 to 28 for a period of 13 days. Chinese Taipei suspended the fishing license of the vessel for three months, the fishing license of the captain for six months, and required him to return to Chinese Taipei for training.

However, Tonga does not consider this adequate severity for this violation of sovereign rights. Tonga said, as stipulated by article 73 of the UN Law of the Sea Convention, the right to enforce the national law of Tonga should be taken into account, that according to the national law of Tonga, three offenses were committed and amounted to a fine of 2.5 million Tongan paanga and that total catch for the 13 days had still not been disclosed or provided to Tonga.

At the technical committee meeting, FFA members voiced their strong support for Tonga to achieve listing of the vessel on the WCPFC's provisional IUU list. It was noted by the chair of the technical committee that six countries (including 1 speaking on behalf of the 17 FFA members) also supported the listing of this vessel. WCPFC membership consists of the 17 members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency plus nine other fishing nations.

Decisions at WCPFC so far have been made by consensus although there is also provisions for voting that have not yet been used (under WCPF Convention Article 11 [4] which includes decision making of subsidiary bodies of the Commission).

Speaking at the technical meeting head of delegation from Tonga, Viliami Moále said: "Under Tonga's fisheries legislation, illegal fishing is treated seriously. Tonga believes that the measures taken by Chinese Taipei towards this fishing vessel are not severe enough for the offences committed. Our rights to enforce our law, with adequate severity, as stipulated under article 73 of the UN Law of the Sea Convention, must be respected in this case."

FFA deputy director Transform Aquorau said: "FFA supports efforts of its members to use the WCPFC process to pursue its national and regional interests. We are pleased to see the regional solidarity of FFA members in backing Tonga's efforts at this meeting and the practical assistance that has been provided by New Zealand as Tonga seeks to list this vessel on the IUU vessel list at the 5th session of the WCPFC in December."

For more information, interviews or photos please contact Anouk Ride, FFA Media and Publications: www.ffa.int.

Under Tongan law, the master, owner and charter are separately liable for a penalty for fishing without a licence.

Members of WCPFC are FFA members (Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu) and distant water fishing nations (China, Canada, European Community, France, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Chinese Taipei, and the United States of America). ***(PR)***

## 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Beata Flores Duenas Mendiola recently celebrated her 90th birthday held at the As Paris Restaurant in the village of Songson, Rota, NMI. Close family and friends from the CNMI and Guam joinED her in celebrating her special day. It was such a grand celebration that the Congressional Delegation of Rota from the CNMI Senate and Legislature were all at hand at the celebration. Standing from left, Sen. Paul Manglona, Sen. Felix Mendiola, former Guam Senator Frank B. Aguon; the celebrant eldest son Daniel D. Sasakura; Senator Paterno Hocog; and Rep. Victor Hocog; Sitting beside Duenas Mendiola is her grandson Junior Fidel Sasakura Mendiola.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# G4S Security promote three

G4S Security Services Marianas has promoted three of its staff recently, according to its human resources manager Kezia Sablan.

Pangelinan

Promoted to the position of operations manager is Moises Pangelinan Jr., while Teofilo L. Lumactod has been elevated to post of administrative supervisor. Last but certainly not the least, Roberto G. Pelegrino has been promoted to commercial operations supervisor.

Pelegrino

G4S Security Services Marianas is part of the Group 4 Securicor Group of companies. ***(PR)***

# Oct. 14 jury selections cancelled

This is to inform all prospective jurors for panels "DS" that the Jury Selections scheduled for Oct. 14, 2008 at 8:30am in Courtroom 202A are hereby canceled until further notice. For further information, contact Jury Coordinator Dora SN. Decena or Deputy Clerk Rosie Ada at 236-9765. ***(PR)***

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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**Lynn A. Knight** PUBLISHER
**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
**Mark Rabago** ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

## CUC for sale. Who's buying?

Given the beleaguered state of the CNMI's utility service, the pain and suffering our current electric power crisis has brought to the people of Saipan, and the damage high electricity rates have done to our economy, one would imagine that our lawmakers might be eager to see the private sector resolve the situation.

Think again.

Last week, the Legislature voted to override Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's veto of a bill designed to privatize the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., a move that clears the way for a private business to purchase and manage the utility service. As the local chamber of commerce has said, privatizing CUC is the right move for dealing with Saipan's power woes, one which local businesses have long supported.

Yet the legislation that now authorizes this change comes with a hitch, a mandatory $250 million price tag for controlling CUC, a cost high enough that it will no doubt be passed along to consumers through higher rates.

A reasonable investor might understand this price tag if our leaders could show evidence that it is based on some sensible appraisal of CUC's assets. But as one political insider pointed out last week, the number is arbitrary. When the privatization bill was introduced, the price for owning CUC was a randomly assigned $500 million. After some protests, lawmakers chose to split that in half. Yes, the value of the utility systems that light our homes, power our air conditioners and supply our drinking water was apparently decided through a numbers game. This is a classic case of micromanagement by the Legislature that, unfortunately, ignores the rules of the market. They didn't even bother to include a provision for the exploration of alternative forms of energy that could possibly lessen the economic burden of consumers.

What if CUC is even worth more than $250 million? The truth is, we don't know.

And the outcome of this numbers game—as the chamber, the governor and CUC's leadership have all said—will almost certainly be higher utility rates at a time when scores of local businesses are already struggling to cope with the rates they are facing now.

Proponents of the privatization bill have said that if the price tag poses a real challenge to securing a buyer for CUC, they can amend the law. But imagine that you're a corporation interested in buying CUC. Imagine that you're working with a government that cannot agree on the price at which the bidding should begin and has not even done the research needed to assess CUC's current value. Moreover, it will take a second act of legislative wrangling for the CNMI to decide the issue. Under those conditions, would you invest here?

That doesn't even take into consideration the costs associated with the requirement to reinstate the eight-member board of directors. That means more people to pay for, travel costs, per diems, allowances, and all other operating expenses related to running a board.

The future of the CNMI's economy and that of CUC are inextricably linked. Already, we have seen businesses shut their doors because of high utility rates, foreign investors turn away from us because utility costs here are too high and private citizens take sometimes drastic measures to conserve electricity just to make ends meet. However, amid all of these problems, our lawmakers have taken it upon themselves to pass a bill that threatens to exacerbate the situation with even higher utility prices.

The governor's office has said that talks are on the horizon to address the issue in the Legislature. For the sake of the CNMI's economy and its future, ours elected officials this time need to listen to the business community and take a reasoned and careful approach to privatization so that everyone benefits. The CNMI can't afford anything else. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

# Where have all the local workers gone?

**By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.*

A few months ago a friend made a survey of the workforce at 10 of the leading hotels in Saipan. While the figures may not be totally accurate, they do show a major fact that about 95 percebt of all maintenance people in the hotel industry are guest workers. This does not mean that the hotels are doing anything wrong. It simply shows that a local labor force does not exist. Why doesn't it exist?

In the survey we found 218 maintenance workers. Of this total only 10 employees were local—a mere 4.6 percent! How many electricians, how many carpenters, how many plumbers, and other skilled workers do we have in the local work force that are out of work?

Yes, I know the instant reply: "Who wants to work for the minimum wage if I am skilled?" If that is true, than the government is doing a great disservice to the local workforce by allowing this to happen. They have saddled the curse of the minimum wage around our necks and will not loosen its strangling hold. As a result few local people want to work at any job for this minimum wage. Why can't we realize that a man or woman should be paid what he is worth? When will this change?

It must change. A man or woman must be paid what they are worth. If we allow this minimum wage curse to continue, we will have submitted ourselves to a form of human bondage. We have put greed of a few people before prosperity for all the people. We have allowed a handful to enrich themselves under the guise of "investors." Meanwhile the vast majority of the populace descends to the poverty level because of this artificial barrier called the minimum wage. It has robbed many of us any incentive to work.

I got the following information from the LLDS DOL listing from about two years ago for the labor market and came up with some interesting and depressing facts. While the numbers may have slightly changed, I feel that they are basically accurate.

As we glance through them, think how few of these positions are filled by locals. Oh, yes, I almost forgot who wants to work for minimum wages? Let them collect food stamps or simply get an uncle or auntie to get them a do-nothing job with the government guarding the water cooler. When will this change?

Let us look at "unskilled positions" first. Unskilled labor is one that requires less than six months of on-the-job training to learn the skills. I have selected only a few job categories.

| **Unskilled Position Classifications**: | |
|---|---|
| A. Houseworkers/housekeepers | 1,648 |
| B. Commercial Cleaners | 984 |
| C. Waiter/waitress | 840 |
| D. Cooks | 777 |
| E. Farmer/farm workers | 656 |
| F. Security guards | 278 |
| G. Bartenders | 67 |
| H. Fishermen | 57 |
| I . Cashiers | 172 |
| J. Kitchen helpers | 131 |
| K. Bakers | 87 |
| L. Laundry workers | 85 |
| M. Casino dealers | 80 |
| N. Arcade poker attendants | 74 |

Number of unskilled jobs by nonresident workers 5,036

Let's look at the skilled jobs positions now. Skilled labor is defined as training that requires more than six months of training or education.

| **Skilled Position Classification:** | |
|---|---|
| A. Accountant | 734 |
| B. Maintenance Worker | 696 |
| C. GM/Mgr/Sales Mgr/ | 613 |
| D. Carpenter | 477 |
| E. Mason | 444 |
| F. Auto Mechanic | 377 |
| G. Administrative Assistant | 329 |
| H. Electrician | 242 |
| I. Nurse | 164 |
| J. Beautician | 175 |
| K. Heavy equipment operator | 168 |
| M. Construction | 127 |
| N. Chef | 99 |

Total number of jobs by nonresident workers 4,645

Are the above jobs being done by nonresident workers, jobs that our local people cannot do or be trained to do? I don't think so. What happened that we allowed this to happen? Meanwhile our unemployed residents continue to be unemployed and looking for handouts. And worst of all, leave the islands.

As we examine the list, please understand, I am not criticizing any nonresident worker or his ability to work. I am attacking a system that has put our local people into a state of poverty and robbed them of the dignity and pride to work. Our government has turned its back on its own people for many years in the disguise of "economic progress?" Have foreign investments created jobs for the local labor force and prosperity for the community? Today we are in a state of depression and desperation while we squirm in the hole we have dug for ourselves. Why?

Consider that 71 percent or more of this year's budget will go to pay for government employees. This means that from a meager estimated budget of $156.7 million about $111 million will fund the salaries of 4,105 full-time government employees in a country of less that 50,000 population.And the rest of us are doomed to $4.05

***See WHERE on Page 13***

**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# What I will do if elected

**By JOHN H. DAVIS JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

I've noticed that some of the other candidates have borrowed liberally from my agenda. That's not a problem for me. It just proves the point that we need some change in our politics.

What I will do is:

1. Introduce legislation for the transfer of the control of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and submerged lands surrounding the CNMI from the United States to the CNMI;
2. Immediately introduce legislation to have an office of the Small Business Administration open in the CNMI;
3. Immediately introduce legislation to have a Veterans Administration Medical Facility built in the CNMI; and
4. And, if it is still an issue, work to have green cards and/or passports granted to non-U.S. citizen individuals who have immediate relative status in the CNMI.

These are but the first steps in an effort to secure economic self-sufficiency for the Commonwealth. Those who have kept up with the national news lately must now realize the need for the Commonwealth to be self-sufficient. When the Asian economy slipped so did the Commonwealth's. Now, the United States economy is at risk. Bailout after bailout and now, Wall Street. Credit in the U.S. is out the window.

The other candidate's answer to these issues is to beg for more handouts and somehow convince the Washington establishment that they should have nothing to say about what goes on here. News flash! It just doesn't work that way. We must start to stand on our own feet. As Mr. Tony Pelligrino says, "…we must start to look down and harvest the gems at our feet…"

This won't be easy and there will be other issues that we must address, but it is a start to a viable economic solution for the Commonwealth.

At least two of the other candidates want to be elected to write grant requests. They can write grant requests from here in the CNMI.

One of them even disparages the idea of introducing legislation. He wants to go to Washington to "learn" how those grants are created in the first place. I'll save him the trip. This thing called legislation creates them.

I will be happy to meet with anyone or any group to elaborate on my positions. If you are inclined to hear more, please contact Jeanne Rayphand at 235-9115, 235-5123 or 287-9807 to arrange a time and date.

## Letter to the Editor

# Who will pay the piper?

History has been written and Act I of the play has just concluded to a thunderous round of critical review. Oh, what's that? You were asleep through Act I? Well, here is a simplified review of Act I (Act II will start immediately after this short intermission while some in the audience are brought up to date):

**In Act I,** the scene opened some 30 years ago when the U.S. federal government gave the newly ordained CNMI $150 million to create the base of its infrastructure: CUC. Throughout Act I, scores of persons of dubious ability; dubious character or both managed to drive CUC along the highway of negligence to an early grave. With no maintenance of equipment, poor and strange fiscal handling and a complete lack of foresight; with no investment in community and left to the mercy of worldly trends, CUC came to the end of its rope.

**Move to present day:** close to the precipice of extinction and with the public clamoring for relief, not only from outrageously high rates, but a much ballyhooed impending power plant explosion, a "state of emergency" was declared, laws, regulations, and board authority suspended, the majority of an unwitting but willing Legislature, in a move akin to taking candy from babies, coughed up the funding and lo, there appeared additional electricity from a two-year old bid process and a contract with Aggreko International. As the curtain rang down on Act I, at least two befuddled legislative members were seen muttering in barely audible tones: "a $250 million price tag…..will not hurt the winning bidder" (*Variety*; 10/3/08), thus leaving our audience at fever pitch wondering what was being sold.

You don't want to miss Act II (coming up next). There is an "all-star" cast of characters: Tony Muña starring in his biggest role ever as CUC director; Stephen Dunlop as Aggreko International sales manager, Asia Division; Nikolao Pula for the Feds in a supporting actor role; Governor Fitial as himself (in minor cameo appearances); maverick legislators as themselves; the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ensemble, and introducing, in their first major role, Ed and Jane Q. Public.

**Act II; Scene 1** opens with our star player, Tony Muña, crooning one of his now familiar banal decrees: "Because it is only temporary, the installation of the Aggreko generators may not need the approval of the Environmental Protection Agency. An application for an EPA clearance will be required if Aggreko will operate after 12 months" and "The situation can be waived to satisfy EPA compliance," adding that the governor's declaration of emergency would also allow for an exemption from EPA compliance (*Variety*; 10/2/08).

To set the stage for scene 1, unbeknownst to the players, the following telephone conversation has occurred behind the scenes. Dialing: 1-919-541-2469, a direct line to Ms. Melanie King, an official with the EPA's *Energy Strategies Group* in North Carolina (this group regulates mobile and stationary non-road engines). Ms. King explains that these engines (Aggreko's) are regulated under 40 CFR, part 60, section iiii. "We really need to know the date of manufacture of these engines to be certain, but there is no such thing as an exemption to regulation by the EPA because of any perceived 'temporary' nature of the units or for units built after April 1, 2006 and these units MUST meet EPA tier 1 requirements before being placed into service." (Mr. Muña stated in *Variety*, 9/24/08: "These engines are brand new.") "While the NMI currently holds an exception from certain limits on the type of fuel used to generate power, there is NO exception to the plant's emission standards." What Mr. Muña could be referring to is a statement found in a Cummins Company newsletter that: "Trailerized engines and generator sets are considered to be stationary when they are installed at a single location for more than 12 months." But, this has nothing to do with the fact that these units are subject to EPA regulation for emissions under the Clean Air Act (CAA) regardless of the time of usage (other than as standby emergency generators used less than 200 hours per year) and regardless of the amount of emissions produced.

To add further drama for scene 1, a second telephone conversation occurs (also behind the scenes). Dialing: 1-415-947-4106, a direct line to Mr. Charles Aldred, an official with the EPA's *Region IX Air Quality Enforcement Office* in San Francisco. Mr. Aldred, after being informed of the situation, explains that the region IX EPA office should have been contacted FIRST, prior to installation, either by the Governor (setting the stage for his first cameo appearance—which never occurred), or by the NMI's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ—who never appears on stage). Mr. Aldred explains that a temporary "waiver" of some restrictions "might have been allowed considering the emergency nature of the situation", but that it would necessarily be coupled to a requirement to use engines approved for use in the USA and a program of intention to immediately comply with tier 1 requirements through testing and certification.

He also explains that the governor's "declaration of a state of emergency" would in no case allow for federal laws to be by-passed or ignored. They still apply, and the instant that switch was thrown to turn on the units without contacting the EPA first, the NMI probably put itself in violation of EPA regulations—again. Other EPA ensemble members included a chorus of support from Mr. Alan Rush (EPA Air Quality Standards Office in Washington, D.C. at 1-202-564-1657) and Ms. Jackie Scott (EPA Air Division Director's Office in San Francisco at 1-415-947-8715). The switch is thrown in the governor's first cameo appearance (*Tribune*; 9/12/08) (but not his first act of defiance).

As the scene winds down, Nikolao Pula enters, stage right, and congratulates director Muña, Governor Fitial (in a second cameo appearance) and the legislative leadership on saving the NMI from certain disaster by how quickly they had implemented a LEASING deal for millions of dollars while rejecting ownership offers from Telesource and Caterpillar that were deemed "too reasonable and cost effective" for a part in this play. In Mr. Pula's only other spoken line, he exclaims: "I'm impressed with how clean the systems are!" (*Tribune*; 9/24/08). Curtain drops as Mr. Pula holds out the possibility of a few more millions of dollars as reward for an admirable ability of the NMI to squander federal dollars in the manner of its mentors, Messrs. Abramoff and DeLay. Mr. Pula quickly exits, stage left, in a successful attempt to avoid the outstretched hands of Ed & Jane Q. Public.

**Scene 2;** As the curtain rises, our star, Mr. Muña, opens with the following statement in a vain attempt at self-defense and to distract attention away from CUC by an already irate audience (in a show of indignation, the audience had refused to applaud after the last scene): "I sought guidance from the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) even before the arrival of the Aggreko units on Saipan. DEQ was handling that for us and I told Rep. Tina Sablan…that we've been transparent to DEQ from the beginning. I talked with DEQ about the emission issue and pipeline and the division continues to guide CUC on areas that require compliance or how to get waivers or exemptions." (*Variety*; 10/2/08).

Aggreko Sales Rep. Stephen Dunlop (briefly joined by Aggreko site manager, Wayne Lee) in their only appearance, assures the audience that their contract with CUC specifies: that's CUC's problem; CUC has given us a very good contract that guarantees Aggreko full payment of electric generation charges ($84,000 per WEEK minimum guaranteed for 52 weeks) and monthly lease rent of $504,000 even if our generators are taken off line or fail to work! (CUC/Aggreko contract; 6/19/08). As they dance off the stage, they exclaim for all to hear; "It was just like Christmas!" It must have seemed so, since these gensets can be purchased brand new for roughly $200,000 each, already container mounted and meeting EPA Tier 1 requirements—IN the U.S.—quoted on 10/3/08 by a Cummins authorized dealer in Tampa, Florida.

The drama unfolds when, although having taken the first step correctly by contacting DEQ, our star is stunned when he suddenly learns that: 1) DEQ had been given a 10-year time frame, plus an additional five-year extension since 1991 under Title V of the CAA to promulgate regulations and get them approved by the EPA in order for DEQ to retain authority for issuance of air quality permits in the NMI, but was the only one of its 55 state level counterparts that never fulfilled the requirements; thus, the authority for such permitting was remanded to the EPA as of Jan. 9, 2006; and, 2) DEQ never contacted the EPA for further guidance or instructions regarding the Aggreko engines (show back-scene of phone call number 2 in scene 1). The curtain falls on scene 2 as our star temporarily forgets his next line.

**Scene 3;** After a brief recovery from this astonishing clarification, our star, in an attempt to offer some self-justification, sputters the opening phrase: "Since Aggreko turned on its generators their emission remains 'practically clear' compared to that of CUC's power plants."

Once again our star is horrified when EPA officials explain that there are 188 possible toxic air pollutants under CAA regulations and that most of them are perfectly "CLEAR" gases. The EPA Ensemble continues in harmonic unison: "The primary pollutants from diesel engines are nitrous oxides, carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, benzene, hydrogen sulfide, and carbon dioxide. These are all completely clear gasses that can cause direct harmful effects on humans, plants, animals and inanimate objects as well as combine with moisture in the air to form acids that can destroy almost everything (over time) and even kill living coral in the shallow areas of the ocean downwind from the emission source. When you see the "smoke" from the source, that's the particulate matter that comes from the combustion of the fuel, not the toxic gasses—but that's bad for you too." And all that doesn't even get to the detrimental effect on climate change through contribution to "the greenhouse effect and global warming"!

Our star exults in a sudden moment of enlightenment: "So that's why the Government created the Clean Air Act!" Exit stage left, curtain descends on Scene 3, Act II. Audience departs in sad astonishment with not a single hand-clap.

What has so far unfolded is only the first two acts of our little drama, but ACT III and beyond should be eye-popping, so stay tuned. The doors are about to open and the returning players for Act III promise to reveal some surprises for the audience. And be prepared for the entry of a new (tongue in cheek) "hero" in our little play—the Public School System portrayed by the venerable Rita A. Sablan in person. Of course, no play would be complete without a "villain", so enter the Department of Finance (under the direction of Governor Fitial in his third cameo appearance) and portrayed in a rare appearance by the affable Sir Eloy Inos. Some surprise guests may also join the cast. Tickets are still free and readily available, so don't hesitate, check it out now and get ready for more of the greatest little show on earth!

**Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.**
*San Jose, Tinian*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. North winds near 10 mph. | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph becoming east Tuesday. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲87° ▼75° | ▲86° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° |

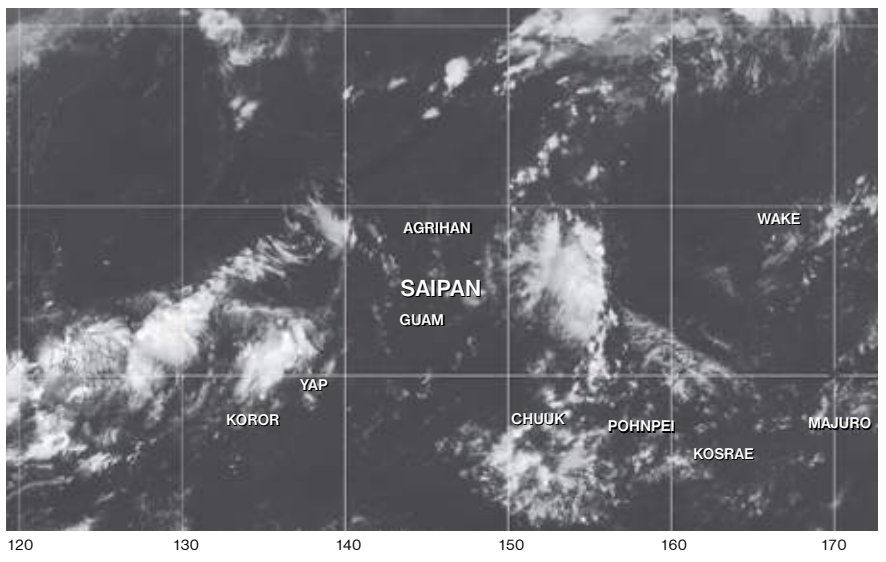
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Mostly Cloudy | ▲85 | ▼76 |
| Palau | Cloudy | ▲88 | ▼76 |
| Yap | Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼76 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲88 | ▼77 |
| Pohnpei | Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼73 |
| Kosrae | Mostly Cloudy | ▲88 | ▼76 |
| Majuro | Mostly Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼75 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Rain | ▲66 | ▼54 |
| Beijing | Cloudy | ▲66 | ▼48 |
| Hong Kong | Cloudy | ▲84 | ▼73 |
| Honolulu | Showers | ▲82 | ▼74 |
| London | Cloudy | ▲66 | ▼54 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲79 | ▼60 |
| Manila | Mostly Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼77 |
| Melbourne | Cloudy | ▲57 | ▼42 |
| Miami | Cloudy | ▲87 | ▼77 |
| New York | Mostly Cloudy | ▲64 | ▼50 |
| Osaka | Mostly Cloudy | ▲73 | ▼59 |
| Paris | Cloudy | ▲64 | ▼54 |
| Pusan | Cloudy | ▲78 | ▼60 |
| Rome | Partly Sunny | ▲69 | ▼51 |
| Salem | Cloudy | ▲68 | ▼50 |
| San Francisco | Sunny | ▲72 | ▼57 |
| Seoul | Partly Sunny | ▲75 | ▼54 |
| Tokyo | Rain | ▲74 | ▼61 |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Sunny | ▲71 | ▼55 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2008**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends northeastward from a weak low level circulation centered at 11N132E eastward over the Marianas to 17N155E then curving southward to end at 9N157E. Scattered showers and thunderstorms associated with the circulation are found northwest of Palau between 12N and 10N from 130E to 133E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of the trough are found over and east of the Marianas between 16N and 11N from 144E to 148E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms on the eastern end of the surface trough are occurring north of Pohnpei or within 80 miles of a line from 13N158E to 9N158E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southeast of Chuuk within 110 miles of a line from 7N155E to 2N155E. An upper-level low centered northeast of Wake Island at 23N172E is triggering scattered showers within 50 miles of a line from 23N174E to 21N172E. A weak surface trough extending from 6N168E to 5N176E is allowing for scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southwest of Majuro within 50 miles of a line from 7N170E to 4N168E.

## Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | |
|---|---|---|
| 6:00AM Today | Low Tide: | 0.1 Feet |
| 1:48PM Today | High Tide: | 1.6 Feet |
| 6:47PM Today | Low Tide: | 1.4 Feet |
| 10:46PM Today | High Tide: | 1.5 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:07AM | 6:03 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:07AM | 6:02 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:08AM | 6:01 PM |
| Thursday | 6:08AM | 6:01 PM |
| Friday | 6:08AM | 6:00 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 11:54AM | 11:03PM |
| Tuesday | 12:33PM | 11:56PM |
| Wednesday | 1:19PM | |
| Thursday | 2:02PM | 12:49AM |
| Friday | 2:43PM | 1:41AM |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2008

### DEPARTURES

**Saipan-Rota**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO9597 | 11:50am | 12:25pm | 1,7 |

**Saipan-Guam**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO9317 | 4:00am | 4:50am | Daily |
| CO9313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | Daily |
| CO9597 | 11:50am | 1:20pm | 1,7 via Rota |
| CO9601 | 12:30pm | 1:20pm | Daily |
| CO9603 | 3:30pm | 4:20pm | Daily |
| CO9605 | 6:30pm | 7:20pm | Daily |
| CO9599 | 9:30pm | 10:20pm | Daily |

**Saipan-Narita**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW 099 | 5:00am | 7:30am | Daily |
| NW 078 | 8:55am | 2:00pm | Daily |
| NW 075 | 4:55pm | 7:25pm | Daily |

**Saipan-Osaka**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW 083 | 4:20pm | 6:55pm | Daily |

**Saipan-Nagoya**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW 078 | 8:55am | 11:35am | Daily |

**Saipan-Seoul**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ 604 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ 604 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2,3,4,5,6,7 |
| OZ 606 | 3:30pm | 7:00pm | 2,4,6,7 |

**Saipan-Busan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ 608 | 3:50am | 7:20am | 1,5 |

**Saipan-Shanghai**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM 844 | 3:15am | 5:55am | 2,6 |

**Rota-Guam**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO 9597 | 12:50pm | 1:20pm | 1,7 |

**Guam-Manila**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO 893 | 5:50pm | 9:10pm | 3,5 via Koror |
| CO 933 | 7:00pm | 8:40pm | Daily |
| PR 111 | 6:00am | 7:45am | 1,2,4,6,7 |

### ARRIVALS

**Rota-Saipan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO 9598 | 3:25am | 4:00am | 5,6 |

**Guam-Saipan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO 9316 | 2:30am | 3:20am | Daily |
| CO9598 | 2:30am | 4:00am | 5,6 via Rota |
| CO9596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | Daily |
| CO9600 | 10:20am | 11:10am | Daily |
| CO9602 | 2:00pm | 2:50pm | Daily |
| CO9604 | 5:00pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| CO9606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |

**Narita-Saipan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW 076 | 10:15am | 2:50pm | Daily |
| NW 077 | 6:25pm | 1:30am+1 | Daily |
| NW 100 | 8:45pm | 1:20am+1 | Daily |

**Osaka-Saipan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW 084 | 10:30am | 3:05pm | Daily |

**Nagoya-Saipan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW 077 | 9:00pm | 1:30am+1 | Daily |

**Seoul-Saipan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ 605 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ 603 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ 603 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1,2,3,4,5,6 |

**Busan-Saipan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ 607 | 9:30pm | 2:50am+1 | 4,7 |

**Shanghai-Saipan**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM 843 | 7:50pm | 2:15am+1 | 1,5 |

**Guam-Rota**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO 9598 | 2:30am | 3:00am | 5,6 |

**Manila-Guam**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO 892 | 10:10pm | 5:30am+1 | 3,5 via Koror |
| CO 934 | 10:55pm | 4:30am+1 | Daily |
| PR 110 | 10:20pm | 4:00am+1 | 1,3,5,6,7 |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:00am | 7:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:50am | 8:20am | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:00am | 9:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:50am | 10:15am | Daily |
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:00pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:50pm | 5:25pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:00pm | 6:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:45pm | 7:15pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45am | 6:55am | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30am | 7:40am | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00am | 8:10am | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40am | 8:50am | Daily |
| FRE 109* | 9:10am | 9:20am | Daily |
| FRE 111* | 10:45am | 10:55am | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 113 | 11:40am | 11:50am | Daily |
| FRE 115 | 1:00pm | 1:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 2:30pm | 2:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 4:00pm | 4:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 4:40pm | 4:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 123 * | 5:40pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 125 * | 6:00pm | 6:10pm | Daily |
| **Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05am | 7:15am | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50am | 8:00am | Daily |
| FRE 106** | 8:20am | 8:30am | Daily |
| FRE 108** | 9:00am | 9:10am | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00am | 10:10am | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05am | 11:15am | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00pm | 12:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 1:30pm | 1:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 2:50pm | 3:00pm | Daily |
| FRE 120** | 4:20pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| FRE 122** | 5:00pm | 5:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 6:05pm | 6:15pm | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 6:20pm | 6:30pm | Daily |

## Letter to the Editor

# Fitial should drop lawsuit against federal government

Governor Benigno Fitial has filed a lawsuit against the federal government naming U.S. Department of Homeland Security as the primary defendant in the matter, due to unforeseen detrimental damages on the impact of a federal legislation U.S. Public law 110-229 affecting our economy. This we oppose and challenge for our government had been ignorant on the matter concerning our immigration and labor problems for over two decades.

We recently found out that Department of Homeland Security had implored and started using a new enforcement tool issuing Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act (CAFRA) notices to property owners whose properties have been identified as being used to facilitate smuggling or harboring aliens. This is an important tool because many employers turn a blind eye to the facilitation of criminal activity on their properties. We see a lot of this cases happening in our immigration and labor division to include some of our own people being involved internally and within the community such as illegal sham marriages, bogus employers, illegal sponsorships, illegal adoptions, and illegal activities concerning the abuse of public services to include federally funded public assistance.

In our opinion this system of law enforcement is highly effective. This is by far one of the most sophisticated and smart way to combat such illegal activities in our homeland. Currently we have the FBI, DEA, ATF, U.S. Marshall, and now Immigration and Customs Enforcement, made possible through an initiative called SBI, or Secure Border Initiative.

Created in March 2003, ICE is the largest investigative branch of DHS. The agency was created after 9/11, by combining the law enforcement arms of the former Immigration and Naturalization Service and the former U.S. Customs Service, to more effectively enforce our immigration and customs laws and to protect the United States against terrorist attacks.

ICE does this by targeting illegal immigrants: the people, money, and materials that support terrorism and other criminal activities. ICE is a key component of the DHS "layered defense" approach to protecting the nation. Focus on attacking the infrastructure that supports smuggling organizations as well as the assets that are derived from these criminal activities.

This might include seizing currency, property, weapons, and vehicles. Is this what Gov. Fitial is fighting against? After years of not correcting a flawed immigration and labor system they now want clarifications in our Covenant? What were they doing in the first place? The governor should drop this lawsuit for it is an embarrassment, especially when the argument is concerning SELF-GOVERNANCE, the very governance that left our local people behind by prioritizing nonresident workers. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is a territory of the UNITED STATES, and we have a national security matter that needs to be prioritized.

**Gregorio Cruz Jr.**
*Taotao Tano president*

## WHERE

*From Page 10*

per hour or food stamps. With 71 percent of the money going for salaries, how can the government offer services to us? We live in a socialistic state.

The other night I had a dream in which all government workers were paid the minimum wage of $4.05 an hour as in the private sector. What a saving! What equity! Suddenly I woke up in a sweat realizing that it was only a dream.

Another time I dreamt of all the money and headaches we could have saved over the years if the majority of our labor force had been locals. We wouldn't need such a large Department of Labor Agency or a large immigration office. Think of all the hearings we wouldn't need and inspectors, etc. Wow! Think of all the money saved and all the local manpower utilized. But that too was a dream unfortunately.

The other day one of the administration's spokesman said that the CNMI economy needs 30,000 workers to function at a level that produces a reasonable U.S. equivalent standard of living. What? At $4.05 per hour? And for whom? Nonresident workers? The only way a worker can be productive is to pay him a decent wage based on his skill level. We scare away so many talented people by imposing salary levels. As a result we rarely are able to hire someone with real talent who stays.

America has a strong work ethic which allows any worker to rise to his level of proficiency and pays him for it. If we would recognize that, more of us would strive to better ourselves and work to improve our community. We too can have a strong work ethic.

I have spoken to many older citizens who tell about the times when there were no nonresident workers. They speak about their skills as carpenters, electricians, and other trades they had mastered. The younger people tell me about their fathers and mothers and the work they did before the floodgates of low wage workers inundated our islands. If it was true then, it can be true again.

In an article as short as this I know that this complicated problem labor issue cannot be resolved, but I hope to make you begin thinking that the only way we can regain our economic prosperity is with the development of our "human capital. I have no objection to allowing investors to come in and earn a good return with their investments. But when the residents do not share in the prosperity, that is not good.

Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva, President of Brazil says it best: "It's called doing things right, allowing the rich to earn money with their investments and the poor to participate in economic growth." But sadly, only a handful insiders benefit. Meanwhile the rest of us watch from the outside as little children glaring through the bakery shop window smelling and seeing the tasty sweet things inside but being unable to afford them. When will we change this?

Have a great day and let's not forget to be thankful for the little things that God gives us daily.


**Northern Marianas College**
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 2300/01/02 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu, Website: www.nmcnet.edu

**INVITATION FOR BID**
**NMC No.: IFB 08-006**
**Procurement of Computers and Accessories**

The Northern Marianas is soliciting for sealed competitive bids for procurement of 30 computer systems with accessories and software, 4 big flat screen television sets, 50 client access licenses. A bidder does not have to bid for all items listed in the specifications and scope of work package. All items must be deliverable within 60 days of award. In order to be considered for this transaction, all persons, firms or corporations responding to this request must provide information requested in the specifications and scope of work. Any bid/proposal received that does not provide the requested information may be rejected. Bids/proposals rejected will not be returned to the owner, but the owner will be notified.

**Due Date/Time:** **Wednesday, October 08th, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.**

Specifications and Scope of Work may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, As Terlaje Campus, Saipan or the NMC Tinian Instructional Site Administrative Offices. Monday to Friday between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:30 p.m.

**Bid Packages are due Wednesday, October 08th, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan or the NMC Rota Instructional Site Administrative Office. Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with NMC Procurement Regulations, and in accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118; **"Local Business Preference"** is **available to local bidders** in this procurement. For bidders located **outside the CNMI**: You may request a copy of the Invitation for Bid via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Duane R.T. Sablan (duanes@nmcnet.edu).

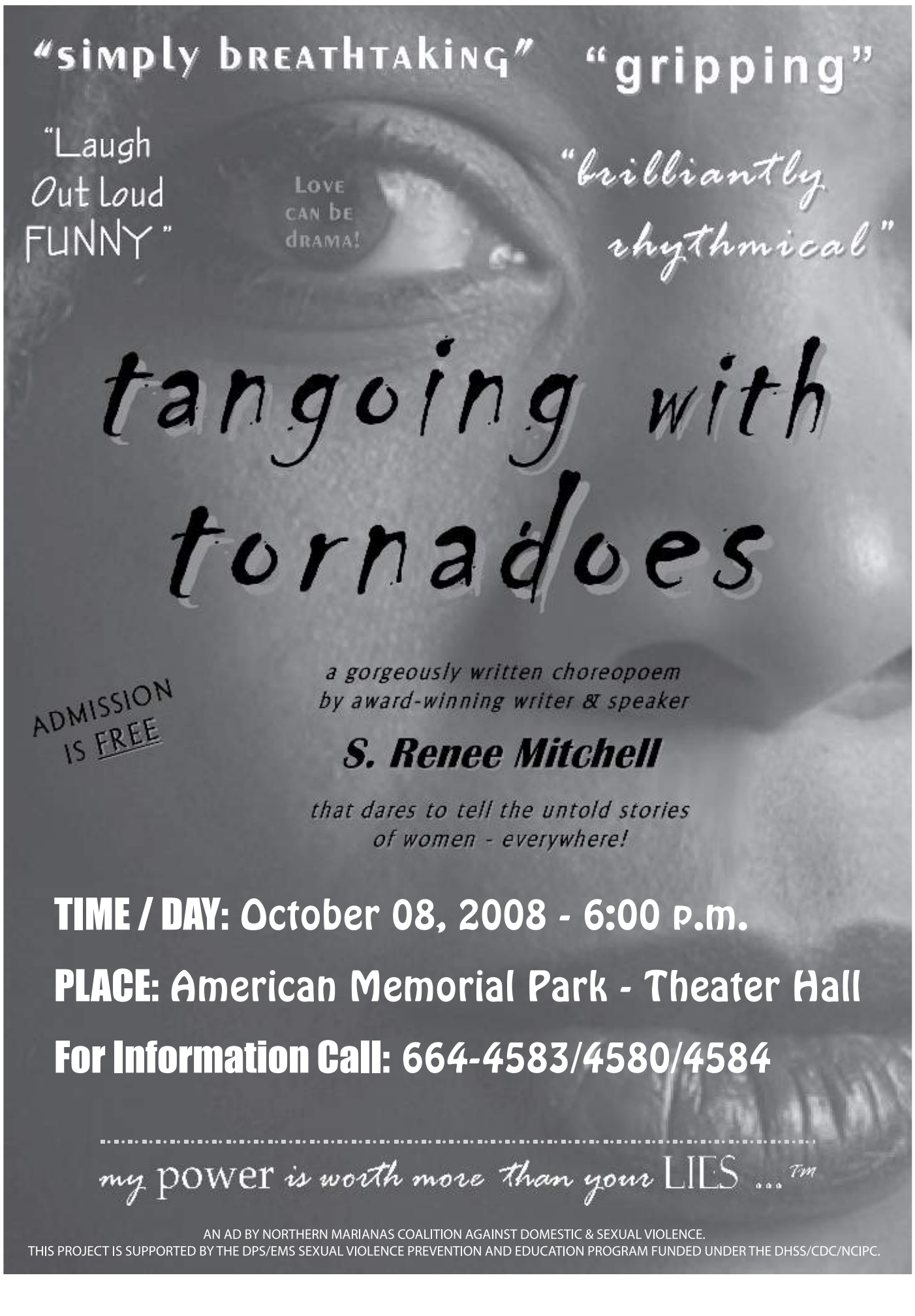
All bidders are hereby notified that the Northern Marianas College and CNMI Government will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the bidder to prepare a response this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the bidder. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

Approved by:

/ss/ Duane R.T. Sablan
NMC, Acting Procurement Officer

/ss/ Adrian Atalig, Director
NMC Information Technology



"simply breathtaking"
"gripping"
"Laugh Out Loud FUNNY"
Love can be drama!
"brilliantly rhythmical"
tangoing with tornadoes
ADMISSION IS FREE
a gorgeously written choreopoem
by award-winning writer & speaker
S. Renee Mitchell
that dares to tell the untold stories
of women - everywhere!
TIME / DAY: October 08, 2008 - 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: American Memorial Park - Theater Hall
For Information Call: 664-4583/4580/4584
my power is worth more than your LIES ...™
AN AD BY NORTHERN MARIANAS COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE.
THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY THE DPS/EMS SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM FUNDED UNDER THE DHSS/CDC/NCIPC.

# Business

# Bailout signed, now it's wait and see its effects

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Getting the financial rescue through Congress may have been the easy part. Getting it to work may prove the tougher task.

After two weeks of anguishing debate, Congress passed and President Bush signed the enormous plan to save the financial industry and prop up the economy in hopes of avoiding an unthinkable free fall with Election Day just a month away.

Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, at a meeting last month, had shocked congressional leaders into action by warning of pending economic collapse without immediate federal intervention. After the climatic House vote on Friday, he said aides already were working out details and lining up advisers from outside the government so the money could start flowing. The goal is to unfreeze credit markets.

The immediate response to the 263-171 vote was not promising. Wall Street, which plunged a record 778 points after the House initially rejected the bill last Monday, fell 157 points. More economic bad news - a jump in job losses - outweighed the good news from Capitol Hill.

"Congress took a big step in the direction of at least giving us the tools necessary to bring some stability into the marketplace," Bush said Saturday while visiting Midland, Texas, his boyhood hometown.

Earlier, in his weekly radio address, Bush spoke cautiously about the economy's future. "My administration will move as quickly as possible, but the benefits of this package will not all be felt immediately. The federal government will undertake this rescue plan at a careful and deliberate pace to ensure that your tax dollars are spent wisely," he said.

Bush acknowledged that people are worried about their personal finances. "I'm confident by getting our markets moving, we will help unleash the key to our continued economic success: the entrepreneurial spirit of the American people," he said.

House Republican leader John Boehner of Ohio said lawmakers knew that if they failed to act, the crisis probably would worsen and "put us in a slump the likes of which most of us have never seen." The bailout, said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., is intended to help address "the real pain felt by Mr. and Mrs. Jones on Main Street."

The Bush administration gained broad authority to buy up toxic mortgage-related investments and other distressed assets from shaky financial institutions. The hope is it will restore confidence in markets and thaw a near-freeze in credit availability that has begun to affect the ability of banks to lend, businesses to obtain money for payrolls and investments, and individuals to gain credit to buy a home or a car.

In an attempt to aid smaller banks with serious liquidity problems, the measure raises the ceiling on federally insured deposits from $100,000 to $250,000. It increases federal oversight over Wall Street transactions and assures that chief executives whose companies benefit from the bailout do not leave with huge golden parachute payoffs.

Last Monday, despite pleas from Bush and his financial advisers and the support of congressional leaders, the House voted 228-205 to reject the rescue plan. Stock markets around the world plunged, then recovered somewhat as economists warned that the U.S. was facing its gravest economic threat since the Great Depression.

But the 95 Democrats and 133 Republicans who voted against the bill were responding to a deluge of calls and messages from constituents demanding defeat of the plan. Many saw it as a $700 billion giveaway to Wall Street when average people were getting no help.

CARLSMITH BALL LLP
VINCENT J. SEMAN, F0361
JOHN D. OSBORN, F0172
Carlsmith Building, Capitol Hill
P.O. Box 5241
Saipan, MP 96950-5241
Tel No. 670.322.3455

Attorneys for Plaintiff
BankPacific, Ltd.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| **BANKPACIFIC, LTD.,** Plaintiff, vs. **WILMER R. SABLAN aka WILMER RABAGO SABLAN and EMERITHA T. TORRES aka EMERITHA TAISACAN TORRES,** Defendants. | **CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0360** **NOTICE OF SALE** |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order of Sale issued by the Court in this matter on September 15, 2008, I will cause to be sold at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, to satisfy a Judgment entered June 03, 2008, in favor of Plaintiff, Defendants' interest in and to the following real property situated in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as described below:

Lot No. 011 G 942 containing an area of917 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 18, dated December 03, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-4286, dated December 09, 1993, the description herein being incorporated herein by reference.

1. **Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale, open to the general public (including the Defendant), will be on October 24,2008 at 3:00 p.m. at the Guma Hustisia, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

2. **Inspection of Property.** Failure to inspect the property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by the bidder.

3. **Warranties and Covenants.** The property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of merchantability, and/or title for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyer shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

4. **Conduct of Sale.**
a. RESERVE. The sale may be held with reserve. Disclosure of the reserve price on the property offered will be at the sole discretion of the undersigned.
b. BIDS. Bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed. The highest of such advance bids will be the opening bid for the property. Advance bids may be submitted in writing and delivered to Vincent J. Seman, Carl smith Ball LLP, Carlsmith Building, P.O. Box 5241, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or error in delivery of bids.
c. DISPUTES. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice of Sale if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.
d. DEPOSIT. Immediately after the sale is consummated the successful bidder must pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance of 90% must be paid to the Plaintiff, in care of **Carlsmith Ball LLP**, Attorneys At Law, within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, Plaintiff shall retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and may again offer the property for sale.
e. MEMORANDUM OF SALE. Ifrequested by the undersigned, a successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale immediately after the sale of the property is struck at auction.

5. **Court Approval Required.** Every property sale is subject to approval by the Court. The Auctioneer and Plaintiff make no warranties or promises with respect to Court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of Court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is granted. The sale is subject to the judgment debtor's rights of redemption pursuant to Commonwealth law.

6. **Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages. of the CNMI governing auction sales, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties: (1) to withdraw the property listed in this Notice, and such withdrawal may occur before the sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale, without notice, at any time before the property is struck off; (3) to reject, on behalf of the Plaintiff, any and all bids for any reason, the exercise of either of which will be without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby.

7. **Change of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned and the Plaintiff reserve the right to change any ofthe tenns hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 26th day of September, 2008.

/s/ **VINCENT J. SEMAN**

CARLSMITH BALL LLP
VINCENT J. SEMAN, F0361
JOHN D. OSBORN, FOI72
Carlsmith Building, Capitol Hill
P.O. Box 5241
Saipan, MP 96950-5241
Tel No. 670.322.3455

Attorneys for Plaintiff
Bank of Hawaii

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| **BANK OF HAWAII,** Plaintiff, vs. **SYLVIA ARRIOLA PE and RENA TO S. PE,** Defendants. | **CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0455** **NOTICE OF SALE** |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order of Sale issued by the Court in this matter on September 24, 2008, I will cause to be sold at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, to satisfy a Judgment entered April 16, 2008 in favor of Plaintiff, Defendants' interest in and to the following real property situated in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as described below:

EA 415-3NEW-3 (formerly part of EA 415-3 NEW, which was part of original EA 415), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2026/89, the original of which was recorded 07 DEC 88 as Document No. 88-3910 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

1. **Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale, open to the general public (including the Defendant), will be on October 24, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. at the Guma Hustisia, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

2. **Inspection of Property.** Failure to inspect the property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by the bidder.

3. **Warranties and Covenants.** The property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of merchantability, and/or title for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyer shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

4. **Conduct of Sale.**
a. RESERVE. The sale may be held with reserve. Disclosure of the reserve price on the property offered will be at the sole discretion of the undersigned.
b. BIDS. Bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed. The highest of such advance bids will be the opening bid for the property. Advance bids may be submitted in writing and delivered to Vincent J. Seman, Carlsmith Ball LLP, Carlsmith Building, P.O. Box 5241, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or error in delivery of bids.
c. DISPUTES. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice of Sale if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.
d. DEPOSIT. Immediately after the sale is consummated the successful bidder must pay to the undersigned a deposit often percent (10%) of the purchase price. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance of 90% must be paid to the Plaintiff, in care of **CARLSMITH BALL LLP, Attorneys at Law,** within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, Plaintiff shall retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and may again offer the property for sale.
e. MEMORANDUM OF SALE. If requested by the undersigned, a successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale immediately after the sale of the property is struck at auction.

5. **Court Approval Required.** Every property sale is subject to approval by the Court. The Auctioneer and Plaintiff make no warranties or promises with respect to Court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of Court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is granted. The sale is subject to the judgment debtor's rights of redemption pursuant to Commonwealth law.

6. **Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the CNMI governing auction sales, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties: (1) to withdraw the property listed in this Notice, and such withdrawal may occur before the sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale, without notice, at any time before the property is struck off; (3) to reject, on behalf of the Plaintiff, any and all bids for any reason, the exercise of either of which will be without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby.

7. **Change of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned and the Plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 26th day of September, 2008.

/s/ **VINCENT J. SEMAN**

# For bailout to work, housing market needs to mend

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Washington's financial bailout plan is now law. So the credit spigot will start flowing again, banks will resume lending, and an economic recovery can begin, right?

Wrong. Experts say the most important thing that needs to happen before the $700 billion bailout even has a chance of working: Home prices must stop falling. That would send a signal to banks that the worst has passed and it's safe to start doling out money again.

The problem is the lending freeze has made getting a mortgage loan tough for everyone except those with sterling credit. That means it will take several months or longer to pare down the glut of houses built when times were good - and those that have come on the market because of soaring foreclosures - before home prices start appreciating.

Housing is a critical component to the U.S. economy and by extension the availability of credit. Roughly one in eight U.S. jobs depends on housing directly or indirectly - from construction workers to bank loan officers to big brokers on Wall Street. A turnaround in housing prices would boost confidence in the wider economy and, experts hope, goad banks into lending again.

"Housing traditionally does lead the economy through a recovery. I think it's going to be critical for a sustained recovery in this cycle, too," said Gary Thayer, senior economist at Wachovia Securities.

In the meantime, people like Alicia Elliott are adjusting to a new American reality: Life without credit.

The 21-year old Morgantown, W. Va., resident just bought a used mobile home, borrowing $4,000 from friends and family because she couldn't get a bank loan.

"I tried to. Couldn't do it. It's just hard to get a loan," said Elliott, who works as a cashier at a Lowe's Cos. store.

She used to get bombarded with offers for credit cards. Now she can't even get one. "I get denied one after another after another. It doesn't matter if you have a co-signer or not," she said.

Trey Simmons, a 31-year-old barber at a Dallas hair salon, said he worries tighter lending standard will squash his goal of buying a home next year.

"Credit is a privilege everybody can't get," Simmons said. "I had credit at a young age and messed up."

He now operates on a strictly cash basis. "If I don't have it," he said, referring to cash, "I don't spend it."

The dilemma boils down to a matter of trust.

"Credit, by definition, means trust and faith, and for many reasons trust and faith have been damaged," said Sung Won Sohn, an economics professor at California State University, Channel Islands.

Sohn said the near certainty of a recession makes it too risky for the thousands of small and medium-sized banks across the country to lend to people like Elliot.

"Banks know the economy is getting worse, so ... they will keep being cautious," said Sohn, a former banking executive.

Still, the government hopes that by scooping up billions of dollars in bad mortgage debt and other toxic assets, banks eventually can clean up their shaky balance sheets, crack open the vaults and send money washing through the system again.

# Nation

# Onus on McCain to turn presidential race his way

AMERICA VOTES

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—One month before Election Day, Barack Obama sits atop battleground polls in a shrinking playing field, the economic crisis is breaking his way and he has made progress toward winning the White House.

The onus is on Republican John McCain to turn the race around under exceptionally challenging circumstances - and his options are limited.

McCain's advisers say the Arizona senator will ramp up his attacks in the coming days with a tougher, more focused message describing "who Obama is," including questioning his character, "liberal" record and "too risky" proposals in advertising and appearances.

Obama's advisers, in turn, say he will argue that McCain is unable to articulate an economic vision that's different from President Bush's. In a new push, the Illinois senator is calling McCain's health care plan "radical."

Now that the vice presidential debate between Joe Biden and Sarah Palin is over, the contest returns to being entirely about Obama and McCain and likely will stay that way until Nov. 4. The rivals meet Tuesday in their second of three debates.

Interviews with party insiders across the country Friday showed this: Democrats are optimistic of victory if nervous over whether Obama can hold his advantage while Republicans are worried that the race may be moving out of reach though hopeful that McCain will beat the odds as he did in the GOP primary.

Both sides note that plenty can change in one month - and they're right.

"Very confident, yet not overly so," said Ohio Democratic Party chief Chris Redfern, who said the financial turmoil is dreadful for the country but "politically it's advantageous" for Obama.

AP

Republican presidential candidate, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., speaks at a town hall style campaign stop in Pueblo, Colo. Friday, Oct. 3, 2008.

## *Obama assails McCain over health care proposal*

**NEWPORT NEWS, Va.** (AP)—Democrat Barack Obama sharply criticized Republican John McCain's health care proposals Saturday, saying they could force millions of Americans to struggle to buy medical insurance.

Turning to an issue that has faded somewhat during the economic crisis, Obama gave an unusually detailed outline of his own plans in a 40-minute speech to thousands of sun-soaked Virginians at a waterside park in Newport News. He would make coverage more affordable to most Americans, he said, paying for the subsidies largely by canceling the Bush administration's tax cuts for people making more than $250,000 a year.

In a sign that the presidential campaign's final month may have a nastier tone, Obama called McCain's health plan "radical," and Republican officials accused Obama of lying.

Wearing a dark suit and speaking from a TelePrompTer, Obama told the Virginia crowd he would reduce premiums for most people by "as much as $2,500 per family."

He would save money in the health care system, he said, by holding drug and insurance companies "accountable for the prices they charge and the harm they cause." He also said he would outlaw "insurance company discrimination against people with pre-existing conditions."

Medicare would be allowed to negotiate with drug makers for cheaper prices, and his administration would place greater emphasis on preventing illnesses, he said.

"The time has come to solve this problem, to cut health care costs for families and businesses, and provide affordable, accessible health insurance for every American," Obama said.

He devoted at least half his speech to criticizing McCain. The Republican nominee has proposed to tax the health benefits that 156 million people get through the workplace as income. In exchange, McCain would give tax credits to help pay for insurance - $2,500 for individuals and $5,000 for families, paid directly to the insurer they choose.

The criticisms that Obama made here are echoed by his campaign in four new television ads, four separate mailers targeted to swing state voters, radio commercials and events in every battleground state.

"On health care, John McCain promises a tax credit," an announcer says in one of Obama's new ads, over images of families examining their bills. "But here's what he won't tell you: McCain would make you pay taxes on your health benefits, taxing your health care for the first time ever, raising costs for employers who offer health care so your coverage could be reduced or dropped completely. You won't find one word about it on his Web site."

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**
**DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING**
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995

## NOTICE OF HEARINGS PENDING DENIAL APPEALS

**Monday, October 06, 2008 first notice**
**Monday, October 13, 2008 second notice**

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Please bring any documentation necessary to resolve the issues that led to the denial of your permit application. If you fail to appear or fail to bring required documentation, the appeal may be dismissed and an administrative order may be entered against you. Any employee who intends to request permission to transfer to a new employer must appear at the hearing to make that request; failure to appear may result in immediate denial of transfer relief.

ANY EMPLOYER WHOSE DENIAL AROSE FROM A FAILURE TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION, AND WHOSE DOCUMENTATION IS NOW COMPLETE, MAY REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF LABOR AND HAVE THE DENIAL REMOVED. ANY EMPLOYER WHOSE DENIAL IS REMOVED NEED NOT APPEAR AT THE HEARING.

ANY EMPLOYEE WHO NO LONGER WISHES TO PURSUE EMPLOYMENT WITH THE EMPLOYER LISTED BELOW, AND WISHES TO RE-REGISTER FOR TRANSFER TO ANOTHER EMPLOYER, MAY REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF LABOR AND HAVE THE DENIAL REMOVED. ANY EMPLOYEE WHOSE DENIAL IS REMOVED NEED NOT APPEAR AT THE HEARING AND MAY REGISTER WITH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR TRANSFER.

| Case No. | Employee | Employer | Hearing Date | Time |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| DC 08-967 | Cho, Yeun Kyung | A & K Development Co. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-998 | Lu, Xuanbo | A. L L, Corp. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-233 | Illorde, Lourdes T. | AA Enterprises Inc. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-965 | Castillo, Betty M. | Ablog, Nestor R. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-969 | Manangan, Nelson T. | Ablog, Nestor R. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-968 | Mendez, Fely B. | Ablog, Nestor R. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-966 | Valino, Rustico H. | Ablog, Nestor R. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-989 | Labarda, Ma Thelma R. | Ada, Aida G. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-991 | Verdad, Randy C. | Ada, Aida G. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-990 | Natividad, Benilda M. | Ada, Aida L. Garong | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-110 | Farro, Ferdinand R. | Ada, Rosalinda G. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-111 | Farro, Rocelia G. | Ada, Rosalinda G. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-977 | Villamor, Edelyn D. | Agulto, John | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-947 | Lasola, Ma Luisa C. | Aguon, Clyde N. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-964 | Perez, Marinette A. | Alarzar, Sylvia | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-972 | Infante, Glory F. | Aldan, Pedro/April | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1008 | Batinggal, Carolina T. | Alfante, Yolanda O. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-995 | Padayao, Veronica C. | Alpex Saipan Inc. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-994 | Sagarino, Nicasio D. | Alpex Saipan Inc. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1026 | Cui, Baoyu | Apple Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-959 | Almazan, Victor M. | Arceo, Salvador B. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-281 | Masa, Romeo M. | Arriola, Erlinda F. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-302 | Bermudo Jr., Olimpio P. | Baltazar, Luisito | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-493 | Jin, Yufen | Big Bell Inc. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-280 | Samar, Blasito F. | Bisnes Mami Saipan Inc. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1038 | Cho, Sung Taek | Blue Star Corp. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1037 | Woo, Bun Ok Cho | Blue Star Corp. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-247 | Blanco, Eden A. | Calma Corporation | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1017 | Tenorio, Honrata L. | Ceron Heavy Equipment /Parts Inc. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-992 | Tawatao, Myrna S. | Chelita, Romero | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1004 | Lee, Yulim | Daehung Corporation | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-283 | Gurung, Baba | Dasan Corporation | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1034 | Choi, Young Sim | Develop Ideas Corp. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1022 | Gaboya, Merlinda L. | Eastern Hope Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-996 | Echaure, Efrenecio H. | EHC General Construction Incorporate | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-997 | Tusi, Nestor O. | EHC General Construction Incorporate | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1040 | Cruz, Rosabella P. | Estrada, Ludvico Jr. A. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-088 | Dong, Xukun | Fei Ma Industrial Co., Ltd. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1035 | Kim, Sung Hee Ko | Galaxy Co. Ltd. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1002B | Galvan, Shirley A. | Galvan, Ursula Dela Cruz | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-985 | Cabrera, Carmelito M. | Garong, Aida C. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-986 | Cunanan, Maria Rossana S. | Garong, Aida C. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-987 | Galang, Leila G. | Garong, Aida C. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-988 | Velasquez, Celia T. | Garong, Aida C. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-600 | Cui, Shunyu | Geng Biao Corp. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1042 | Napitan, Cesar B. | Golden Key Saipan Inc. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-750 | Guo, Qiongying | Great Wall Corporation | OCT. 24, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1036 | Xie, Nan | Guangdong Dev. Co., Ltd. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-971 | Kang, Byoung Dong | Ha Young Corporation | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1031 | Paek, Mi Ae | Han Nam Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-993 | Japitana, Carmen M. | Hotel Riviera Saipan, Inc. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1013 | Lin, Anshu | Huang Zheng Corp. Ltd. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-263 | Li, Donghua | J C J Co., Ltd. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-288 | Quinata, Juan Han | J Lucky Corporation | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-978 | Wang, Rui | Jangahn Investment Corporation | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-976 | Quemado, Sandy B. | Jang's And Shun Corporation | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1029 | Lin, Peng | Jenner Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1020 | Gao, Chunmei | Ji Sung Trading Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1021 | Han, Kyung Ah | Joseph Co., Ltd. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1007 | Lee, Si Wook | JSSJ Inc. | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-999 | Alcaraz, Gabriel A. | Kevin International Corporation | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1000 | Qian, Jian | Kevin International Corporation | OCT. 16, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1028 | Chen, Yimeng | L Xin Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-984 | Wu, Sue | Lizama, Aldebert B. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-943 | Manuzon, Lucila V. | Lucky 7T Corporation | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1039 | Berueco, Maria Lourdes H. | Marianas Exchange Inc. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1001 | Paglinawan, Vanessa A. | Mayu International Company Limited | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1010 | Wu, Yan | Mei Sai Ya Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-952 | Batangan, Susano G. | Micronesia Woodcraft Enterprises, Inc. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-951 | Companero, Rodrigo S. | Micronesia Woodcraft Enterprises, Inc. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-958 | Santiago, Alfredo F. | Micronesia Woodcraft Enterprises, Inc. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-962 | Rahman, Md Bazlur | Micronesian Health Corporation | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1027 | Jin, Xuehua | My Way Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-067 | Kumar, Amit | Naina Enterprises Inc. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1015 | Pili, Santiago C. Jr. | Pacific Rainbow (CNMI) Inc. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-948 | Tancinco, Delia E. | Pangelinan, Mariano | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-949 | Maturan, Jelly E. | Pangelinan, Mariano K. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1018 | Kim, Kwon Nam | Power Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1023 | Faura, Normita E. | PRFC Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-1012 | Ramos, Josephine C. | RDA Enterprises, Inc. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1033 | Baniqued, Glendalyn C. | Revlolving Rest. 360 Inc. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-264 | Parfan, Rolando B. | Reyes, Consuelo M. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-158 | Entendez, Romeo, Jr. L. | Roberto, Juan B. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1016 | Cruz, Irene V. | Saipan Education Center, Inc. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-963 | Santos Jr., Rodrigo C. | Santos, Rona Joyce & Ramona | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1009 | Valenzuela, Criselda G. | Sara Ent., Inc. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-961 | Marquez, Geraldine M. | Seman, Jesse K. & Tricia | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-982 | Jin, Aizi | Sky Corporation | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-983 | Li, Shunai | Sky Corporation | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-970 | Park, Eun Jeong Kim | Soo Min Corporation | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1011 | Dang, Thi Nhung | Sphere Inc. DBA: At Your Service | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1002A | Cui, Shunzi | Star Corporation | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1003 | Jin, Wanzhe | Star Corporation | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-198 | Asedillo, Marlon A. | Tae Woo Corporation | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1030 | Arafol, Alvin I. | Taitano, Nila L. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-960 | Bhandari, Kalpana | Tenorio, Dicta C. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-798 | De Guzman, Norma F. | Untalan, Emilie C. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1014 | Tomboc, Ramon | Wing Corp. | OCT. 17, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-471 | Flores, Jeffrey P. | World Intl. Corp. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 1:00 P.M. |
| DC 08-352 | Tang, Xinmei | Yong He Pacific Corp. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-292 | Im, Inah | Yong San Pacific Corp. | OCT. 24, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-1041 | Yamashita, Daisuke | YTS Micronesia Inc. | OCT. 23, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |
| DC 08-975 | Lin, Daohua | Zheng, Biao | OCT. 17, 2008 | 9:00 A.M. |

NATION

# Like mountains that stole Fossett, mystery looms

**RENO, Nev.** (AP)—The sky was clear that morning, the wind light. Steve Fossett took off alone from hotel magnate Barron Hilton's ranch about 70 miles southeast of Reno in a blue and white stunt plane with orange stripes and blue sunbursts on the wings.

It was supposed to be a short pleasure ride before lunch.

The two-seater was Hilton's, but Fossett could fly anything. He had circumnavigated the globe without refueling, had flown around the world in a balloon. Two months earlier, he had been inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame.

"I'm hoping you didn't give me this award because you think my career is complete," he said at the time, "because I'm not done."

Just over a year after the 63-year-old Fossett vanished during his jaunt from the Flying M Ranch, a lingering mystery has been solved, with discovery last week of his plane's wreckage and possible remains in the wilds of California's Sierra Nevada. He slammed into a mountainside at about 10,000 feet and probably died instantly.

But a larger question remains: What caused such an accomplished aviator to crash in a place he knew well, on a fine September day?

Finding the answer may take many months. On Friday, investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board began hauling debris from the crash site by helicopter. They plan to reassemble the plane at a Sacramento warehouse piece by tiny piece to look for mechanical failures. Gathering archival weather records, including winds, clouds and turbulence for the day of his flight, also is not simple, officials said. With luck, radar data will help determine Fossett's path and pinpoint the time of the crash.

For now, speculation runs the gamut. Ralph Obenberger, undersheriff of Mono County, Calif., thinks Fossett might have run into unexpected weather. He remembers large storm clouds over the peaks around Mammoth Lakes on Sept. 3, 2007.

But Bill Manning, the director of Mammoth-Yosemite Airport, said that day was generally clear and calm in the Mammoth Lakes region. He wondered whether Fossett ran into other trouble.

The high Sierra is always a dangerous and unforgiving area to fly, he said. There's little room for error, he reasoned, for pilots who like to fly low and slow, "yanking and banking" through the region's spectacular granite peaks and canyons.

AP

The Mineret Mountains, where a hiker found the plane wreckage of of adventurer Steve Fossett, is seen near Mammoth Lakes, Calif., Friday, Oct. 3, 2008.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Islanders who insisted on staying died in Ike

**GALVESTON, Texas** (AP)—The final hours brought the awful realization to victims of Hurricane Ike that they had waited too long. This storm wasn't like the others, the ones that left nothing worse than a harrowing tale to tell. George Helmond, a hardy Galveston salt, watched the water rise and told a buddy: I was born on this island and I'll die on this island. Gail Ettenger, a free spirit who adopted the Bolivar Peninsula as her home 15 years ago, told a friend in a last phone call: I really messed up this time. Within hours, the old salt and the free spirit were gone as the powerful Category 2 hurricane wracked the Texas Gulf Coast on Sept. 13, flattening houses, obliterating entire towns and claiming at least 33 lives. The dead—as young as 4, as old as 79—included lifelong Galvestonians firmly rooted on the island and transplants drawn by the quiet of coastal living. Seven people drowned in a storm surge that moved in earlier and with more ferocity than expected. Nine others died in the grimy, sweaty aftermath, when lack of power and medicine exacted its toll. Eleven people were poisoned by carbon monoxide or killed in fires from the generators they used in their own attempts to survive.

### Pa. Episcopal diocese OKs split over Bible, gays

**MONROEVILLE, Pa.** (AP)—Clergy and lay members of the theologically conservative Pittsburgh diocese voted overwhelmingly Saturday to break from the liberal Episcopal Church, with which it differs on issues ranging from homosexuality to biblical teachings on salvation. Assistant Bishop Henry Scriven said the vote means the Pittsburgh diocese is now more firmly aligned with the majority of the 77 million-member worldwide Anglican Communion, which is more conservative than the communion's 2.2 million-member U.S. church. "I am delighted," Scriven said, "that what we have done today is bringing the Diocese of Pittsburgh back into the mainstream of worldwide Anglicanism." The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, presiding bishop of the U.S. church, criticized the vote in a statement, saying, "There is room in this Church for all who desire to be members of it." She also said schism is not an "honored tradition within Anglicanism" and is "frequently been seen as a more egregious error than charges of heresy."

The votes were 240 in favor of leaving the church and 102 against. Eight voters either abstained or cast disqualified ballots.

### Salmonella sickens people in 12 states

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The government is urging consumers to thoroughly cook frozen chicken dinners after 32 people in 12 states were sickened with salmonella poisoning. The health warning by the U.S. Department of Agriculture cited frozen dishes in which the chicken is raw, but breaded or pre-browned, giving the appearance of being cooked. They include "chicken cordon bleu," "chicken Kiev," or chicken breasts stuffed with cheese, vegetables or other items. USDA said many of the people who became ill apparently did not follow the package's cooking instructions and microwaved the chicken dishes even though the instructions did not provide for it. Microwaving didn't heat the meals enough to kill the salmonella.

# Asia

# Report: NKorean leader watches soccer game

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Il watched a university soccer game, a state-run news agency said from Pyongyang on Saturday, reporting on the leader's first public appearance in nearly two months.

Kim and other political leaders watched the game held to mark the 62nd anniversary of the founding of the university named after his late father, North Korea founder Kim Il Sung, the Korean Central News Agency report said.

The university's 62nd anniversary was Oct. 1 but the report did not say when or where the game was held. It also did not say whether Kim, who is believed to have suffered a stroke in August, attended the game in person. There was no mention of his health.

The 66-year-old leader had not been seen in public since mid-August, missing two key occasions—the 60th anniversary of the founding of North Korea and Korean Thanksgiving —amid mounting speculation about his health.

U.S. and South Korean officials said last month that Kim, believed to have diabetes and other chronic ailments, suffered a stroke, citing unidentified sources. North Korean officials, however, steadfastly denied he was ill.

Information about North Korea, one of the world's most reclusive nations, can be close to impossible to confirm.

In Seoul, Unification Ministry spokesman Kim Ho-nyeon said late Saturday that he was aware of the KCNA report but had no additional information.

South Korean officials had said Kim was believed to have improved in recent weeks.

Kim's extended absence from the public eye is not his first, but it is believed to be his longest since assuming leadership of communist North Korea after his father's death in 1994.

KCNA's last mention of Kim making a public appearance was on Aug. 14 - around the time Pyongyang stopped disabling its Yongbyon nuclear reprocessing plant and began reassembling the facility in violation of a multilateral disarmament-for-aid pact.

U.S. nuclear envoy Christopher Hill went to North Korea earlier in the week to try salvaging the agreement, worked out in February 2007 by the two Koreas, Japan, Russia, China and the U.S. in a bid to dismantle the nation's nuclear program.

# Thai police arrest top anti-govt protest leader

**BANGKOK,Thailand**(AP)—A one-time Bangkok mayor and key leader of a monthslong anti-government movement that spearheaded the ouster of a Thai prime minister was arrested Sunday on charges of insurrection, police said.

In a continuing crackdown on the movement, police were seen hauling Chamlong Srimuang away at a polling station where elections for the city's top job were beginning. Police Colonel Sarathon Pradit confirmed that Chamlong had been arrested.

Police on Aug. 27 issued arrest warrants for nine protest leaders on a variety of charges including insurrection, which carries a maximum penalty of death or life imprisonment. On Friday, another key figure, Chaiwat Sinsuwongse, was arrested on the same charges.

The nine, who are members of the People's Alliance for Democracy, led mass street demonstrations which led to the ouster of Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej last month.

Police spokesman Maj. Gen Suraphol Thuanthong police earlier told The Associated Press that authorities were preparing to arrest all the remaining nine at the appropriate time and place.

Thousands of members of the alliance have occupied Government House since Aug. 26. They have said they will not leave until allies of deposed Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra are no longer in power.

The arrest warrants against the nine include charges of insurrection, conspiracy, illegal assembly and refusing orders to disperse. Insurrection is the legal equivalent of treason.

The protest alliance has accused the government of Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat of acting as proxy for Thaksin, his brother-in-law, who was ousted in a 2006 military coup.

Somchai replaced Samak, who was forced from office last month when a court ruled that he violated a constitutional conflict of interest provision by accepting money for hosting a TV cooking show while in office.

The court's move was widely seen as a way to defuse the protest-fueled political storm which was paralyzing the country.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### South Korea finds 4 more melamine-tainted products

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—South Korea's food watchdog has ordered four more Chinese-made food products to be destroyed after they were found to contain the industrial chemical melamine. Melamine was found in Snickers Peanut Funsize and M&Ms chocolate milk made by Mars, as well as KitKat wafers made by Nestle and a biscuit manufactured by Lotte Confectionery Co., the Food and Drug Administration said in a statement Saturday. The test results raise the number of known melamine-tainted food products imported to South Korea from China to 10. About 430 Chinese-made products using dairy ingredients have already been pulled from store shelves and put into storage pending tests.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has said small amounts of melamine—less than 2.5 parts per million—are not harmful in most foods, except baby formula. The South Korean tests found 1.78 parts per million of melamine in Snickers bars, 2.38 parts per million in M&Ms, 2.89 parts per million for KitKats, and up to 3.36 parts per million in the Lotte biscuits.

### Taiwan welcomes $6.5 billion US arms package

**TAIPEI, Taiwan** (AP)—Taiwan's president on Saturday welcomed a U.S. decision to sell the island up to $6.5 billion in advanced weaponry, while China warned the move would damage relations between Beijing and Washington. Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister He Yafei summoned U.S. diplomatic representatives to make a strong protest, according to a statement on the Foreign Ministry's Web site. "The Chinese government and the Chinese people strongly oppose and object to the U.S. government's actions, which harm Chinese interests and Sino-U.S. relations," Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said in the statement. The U.S. government announced the package, which includes Apache helicopters and Patriot III missiles, in a notification to Congress on Friday. The State Department said the deal would proceed if no lawmaker voices any objection within 30 days. The United States is required by law to provide Taiwan with defensive weapons against a possible invasion by China. It remains Taiwan's most important ally and largest arms supplier, even after Washington switched its diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing in 1979.

# World

## US military: Iraqi killed in copter collision

**BAGHDAD** (AP)—Two U.S. helicopters collided while landing at a base in Baghdad on Saturday, killing one Iraqi soldier and wounding four people, including two Americans, the military said. It was the second helicopter crash in two weeks.

The U.S. military said hostile fire did not appear to be the cause.

Also Saturday, the military said it killed an al-Qaida in Iraq leader suspected of masterminding one of the deadliest attacks in Baghdad, several other recent bombings and the 2006 videotaped killing of a Russian official.

The two UH-60 Black Hawks crashed shortly before 9 p.m. in a northern section of the capital known as Azamiyah, the military said. The wounded included two American troops and two other Iraqis, but the total number of people on board was not yet known, a statement said.

"The situation is under control. Emergency services are on the scene," military spokesman Lt. Patrick Evans said. An investigation into the crash was under way.

Two Iraqi police officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to release the information, said the crash occurred during clashes between gunmen and U.S.-backed Iraqi forces in northern Baghdad.

Evans denied the reports, saying "we have absolutely no reports of any clashes taking place nearby."

A witness who identified himself only by his nickname Abu Sattar said he was receiving guests in his house when he heard a big explosion.

"We went outside the house and we saw a fire coming from nearby. Then we heard the sounds of gunfire and U.S. soldiers came and sealed off the area," he said.

The U.S. military relies heavily on helicopters to ferry troops, dignitaries and supplies to avoid the threat of ambushes and roadside bombs. At least 70 U.S. helicopters have gone down since the war started in March 2003, according to military figures. Of those, 36 were confirmed to have been shot down.

On Sept. 18, a CH-47 Chinook en route from Kuwait crashed in the southern desert about 60 miles west of Basra on Sept. 18, killing all seven American soldiers on board. The military said that crash apparently was due to a mechanical problem, not hostile fire.

The al-Qaida in Iraq leader was killed Friday elsewhere in northern Baghdad. American troops also killed the man's wife in a firefight as they tried to capture him, the military said.

## Developed countries push back vs pirates

**DEAUVILLE, France** (AP)—Armed pirates aboard fast-moving skiffs have increasingly turned the shipping lanes off Somalia into a lucrative hunting grounds: commandeering vessels large and small and leaving the world's maritime powers frustrated about how to stop the seafaring bandits.

Now, however, momentum is growing for coordinated international action to back up the sharp response after the stunning seizure late last month of a Ukrainian cargo ship laden with tanks and heavy weaponry—as the pirates quickly found themselves encircled by U.S. warships and receiving only silence to their demands for millions of dollars in ransom.

It could be a sign of a more aggressive and unified front in the one of the world's most important shipping lanes.

Several European Union countries are planning to launch an anti-piracy patrol, and Russia announced Friday it would cooperate with the West on fighting the pirates. U.S. warships, meanwhile, are being diverted from counterterrorism duties to respond to the hijackers.

America and some of its allies already have 10 warships in the area in the Gulf of Aden, north of Somalia on Africa's eastern elbow and between the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea.

France's defense minister this week—meeting in northern French seacoast town of Deauville—said eight EU countries have volunteered to take part in an anti-piracy operation off Somalia that could get a formal go-ahead next month.

Nobody has any illusions that the patrols—which officials say would at first involve only three frigates—will halt piracy through the Gulf of Aden, which is crossed by some 20,000 ships each year.

"It's a positive development, but whether it's sufficient is another matter," said Roger Middleton, an expert on East Africa at Chatham House think tank in London.

French defense officials say the EU plan will be modeled on successes of another operation designed to protect World Food Program convoys destined for Somalia, a mostly lawless state where warlords and Islamic militias have replaced government control in many regions. The French officials note that none of the 27 relief deliveries was hit by pirates.

International cooperation also has yielded results against piracy in Southeast Asia, where Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore have teamed up to fight bandits in the Malacca Strait.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### UN nuclear meeting indirectly criticizes Israel

**VIENNA, Austria** (AP)—A U.N. nuclear conference indirectly criticized Israel on Saturday for refusing to put its atomic program under international purview, but the Jewish state evaded a Muslim-led attempt to link it to nuclear proliferation in the Mideast. As in past years at the International Atomic Energy Agency's general conference Iran, Israel's most outspoken foe, spearheaded the verbal attack on Israel, which is widely considered to have nuclear arms but has a "no tell" policy on the issue. Chief Iranian delegate Ali Ashgar Soltanieh said Israel's nuclear capabilities represent a "serious and continued threat to the security of neighboring and other states." And he took the U.S. and other Western backers of Israel to task for their "shameful silence" on what he said was the menace posed by Israel's atomic arsenal. The meeting of 145 nations voted for a resolution urging all nations to open their nuclear activities to outside inspections and work toward the establishment of a Mideast nuclear weapons free zone. With Israel the only country in the region considered to have atomic arms, passage of the resolution constituted indirect criticism of the Jewish state.

### Mexican police find 9 bodies dumped in Tijuana

**TIJUANA, Mexico** (AP)—Police have found nine more bodies dumped around the Mexican border city of Tijuana, where nearly 50 people have been killed in a week of violence related to the drug trade. Five men were found asphyxiated in a car Saturday in the eastern part of the city, according to the Baja California state Attorney General's Office. The men were beaten and had their hands bound. The bodies of two beheaded men were found wrapped in blankets on a road elsewhere in the city, the office said. The heads were in black plastic bags nearby. A piece of cardboard left by the bodies read: "These are the bricklayer's people." On Monday, a message found with 12 bodies next to a Tijuana elementary school threatened "all of those who are with 'The Engineer.'" State prosecutor Rommel Moreno has blamed the violence on warring leaders within the Arellano Felix drug gang. More than 400 people have been killed in drug-related violence in the city across from San Diego this year, including at least 49 this week.


VICENTE T. SALAS
Law Office of Vicente T. Salas
2nd Floor, UIU Building,
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501309
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, UIU Building,
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, -vs- BENJAMIN T. MANGLONA and ESTATE OF MAGDALENA M. MANGLONA, Defendants. | Civil Action No. 07-0170 | **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Benjamin T. Manglona and the Estate of Magdalena M. Manglona in the following described real property situated in Tatgua, Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

**Lot No. 230 R 01,** containing an area of 9,384.50 square meters, more or less, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 230 R 00, including all existing anfd future improvements on the said property, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, October 31, 2008**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit, Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the titles and properties; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Benjamin T. Manglona and the Estate of Magdalena M. Manglona in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real properties will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 3rd day of September 2008.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA,
COMMISSIONER
Department of Public Safety

VICENTE T. SALAS
Law Office of Vicente T. Salas
2nd Floor, UIU Building,
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501309
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, UIU Building,
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, -vs- JUAN M. SAN NICOLAS and MARIANA D. SAN NICOLAS, Defendants | Civil Action No. 03-0610B | **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Juan M. San Nicolas and Mariana D. San Nicolas in the following described, real property situated in Tanapag, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

**Lot No. 018 B 40**
Beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having Plane Rectangular Coordinates of 57,885.476 meters North and 54,811.1119 meteres East of the Mariana Islands District Coordinate System of 1966.

Thence N 39" 29" 56" E, 72.922 meters to Corners 2;
Thence S 32" 53" 15" E, 32.271 meters to Corners 3;
Thence S 39" 29" 56" W, 63.127 meters to Corners 4;
Thence N 50" 30" 04" W, 30.852 meters to point of beginning;

The above described property contains an area of 2,099 square meters, more or less, as shown on Drawing No. 018 B 09 and recorded under File No. 89-2639, including all improvement, appurtenances and easements therewith;

AND

**Lot No. 018 B 43**
Beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having Plane Rectangular Coordinates of 57,848.316 meters North and 54,780.487 meteres East of the Mariana Islands District Coordinate System of 1966.

Thence N 39" 29" 56" E, 48.158 meters to Corners 2;
Thence S 50" 30" 04" E, 71.797 meters to Corners 3;
Thence S 39" 29" 56" W, 52.288 meters to Corners 4;
Thence N 44" 51" 32" W, 42.00 meters to point of beginning;

The above described property contains an area of 2,099 square meters, more or less, as shown on Drawing No. 018 B 09 and recorded under File No. 89-2639, including all improvement, appurtenances and easements therewith;

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, October 31, 2008**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit, Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the titles and properties; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests Juan M. San Nicolas and Mariana D. San Nicolas in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real properties will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 3rd day of September 2008.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA,
COMMISSIONER
Department of Public Safety

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San Jose Village
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San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, -vs- FRANCISCO I. BABAUTA, Defendant. | Civil Action No. 06-0216 | **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendant Francisco I. Babuta in the following described real property situated in San Roque, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

**Lot No. 001 B 10,** containing an area of 752 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 B 00, the original of which was registered with the Land registry as Document No 100, on the 30th day of June, 1970, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, October 31, 2008**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit, Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the titles and properties; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Francisco I. Babauta in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real properties will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 3rd day of September 2008.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA,
COMMISSIONER
Department of Public Safety

# Health & Fitness

## Sweat shop: Shaping up at fitness camp

By MARYELLEN FILLO
(C) 2008, THE HARTFORD COURANT

THE HARTFORD COURANT
Participants work out during the Fitness Boot Camp, a six-week military-style interval training program that takes place at Core Studio in Plainville, Conn., every weekday morning at 5 a.m.

**PLAINVILLE, Conn.**—The first morning the alarm clock went off at 4:15 a.m, I admit I was enthused—the kind of excitement you feel when you have to get up early to catch a plane to go on vacation. It was my first day of Fitness Boot Camp, a six week, five-day-a-week, 5 to 6 a.m. exercise program at a fitness studio here.

By 5:15 a.m. I was sure I had lost my mind.

"What was I thinking?" I cursed to myself as what appeared to be a relatively easy set of 50 jumping jacks at 5:01 morphed into a set of high jogs by 5:05 that together had me (with dirty hair and no makeup—it's 5 a.m. and dark out) flushed, sweating and gasping for breath, certain that it was a precursor to a heart attack. I remember thinking as I looked around the room at the other 17 "campers" and we headed out to do a half-mile jog, "I'm nuts."

And so it began ... my first week of military-style exercise. This was a bright idea I initially had while in Mexico after watching others work out at the resort next door (while I was in a lounge chair on a beach). The notion was fueled further by some acquaintances who insisted it would be "so much fun."

Billed as a military-style interval training program "unlike any other," I found it hard to believe that the 60-minute, nonstop regimen of running, jumping, pushing and pulling my nearly 60-year-old body had any benefits other than riling up two bad knees and underscoring the fact that I was very, very out of shape.

"Push through it, stay with it," was what I tried to focus on as our drill instructor, Jana Rumbaugh, sternly yelled out encouragement. "If you can't do it at my pace, slow it down to yours but don't stop moving," she chided as I tried to think of subtle ways to skip every other squat thrust, an exercise I couldn't do at 8 years old and still cannot do at age 58.

THE HARTFORD COURANT
Kimberly Ryan of Cheshire, Conn., takes part in the intense Fitness Boot Camp. The 16 women and two men taking part in the program hope to shed pounds as well as increase their strength and endurance.

THE HARTFORD COURANT
Mark Berardi of Southington, Conn., is one of two men taking part in the Fitness Boot Camp, a six-week military-style interval training program taking place at Core Studio in Plainville, Conn.

THE HARTFORD COURANT
Jana Rumbaugh, a personal trainer and fitness instructor, leads the intense Fitness Boot Camp.

So here I am, Week 3, still sticking it out five days a week. Still getting up when most people aren't even thinking about hitting the snooze button. Still using a heating pad on a bad right knee but anxious for the next day to get back out there. Have I really gone mad?

According to national experts, I've just been bitten by the bug. It's an increasingly popular workout program that hits all the bases. Simple, intense, back-to-basics exercises aimed at boosting strength and endurance with weight loss, body fat reduction and toning. Just like basic training, it's done at that predawn time when family, phones and professional duties can't distract you. And there is the accountability factor, one the military relies on: peer pressure. When you are part of a team, you have a commitment to fulfill. If you are missing, it is noticed.

"You drag yourself out of bed even when you don't want to because you don't want to disappoint the other people," insists veteran boot camper Patty Lathrop, a 46-year-old mother and mortgage broker from Farmington, Conn.

"To me, it's me and 17 other friends," said Lathrop, who began the boot camp program to jump-start the end of her weight-loss program. "You come for the first time and there are all these different dynamics from individuals but it develops into a team," she continued. "There's an energy to it every day and you don't want to miss it."

I'll admit it. Guilt has a lot to do with my allegiance to the predawn classes. I felt obligated to explain to everyone why I missed two of the 14 classes so far. When we did the first "push-up circle," a one-hour, one-by-one marathon of push-ups aimed at compiling an aggregate total of more than 800, I realized what skipping a day could mean. That day, three people were missing, which meant the rest of us had more to do. And trust me, even given that, I struggled to make any kind of significant contribution and felt bad that I could not make my body do more.

And there's the cost. It's not cheap at about $20 a class. And my other motivator: I knew I'd be writing about this experience.

There are some benefits that I never considered.

I have made new friends, people who have been there to encourage me. Even when I tripped while doing sprints and ended up spread eagled on the studio floor, there were no giggles or embarrassing comments.

"Oh, my God, are you all right," asked one of the younger members of the class as she rushed over to get me up and out of the way. "Don't worry about it," she said smiling. "You probably used up some extra calories."

And then there are the mornings we go outside with a backpack filled with 10 pounds of potatoes.

But there is a silver lining. If you have to do 100 crunches, why not do them while looking at a sky full of stars. In a world that is way too noisy, what a treat to be able to hear yourself breathe as you jog around a track.

Exercise, after all, is really what it is about.

Rumbaugh insists that those who stick with it see results, maybe not in body weight but in shape. "Because it is a daily, consistent regimen, you don't get bored," she said. Rumbaugh has a notebook full of varying programs to make sure no two days of exercise are alike—except for the killer push-ups and the leg bicycles that leave your gams feeling like jelly.

"It's a good mix of cardio, interval training and strength training using your own body weight," said Rumbaugh, who recently moved from Manhattan, where she honed her boot camp instructor skills.

I'm not sure about me but fellow camper Mark Berardi, a Southington, Conn., resident, is seeing a change.

FROM START TO FITNESS

by Andrea Wyatt
M.S.S., C.S.C.S.

## Bring the gym home

Creating a gym in your home may be easier than you think. No longer are large, expensive pieces of equipment the only option in bringing the gym home. With the purchase of a jump rope, resistance bands/tubing, a medicine ball and stability ball, you can create a fully functional gym in your house. These items are inexpensive, take up minimal space and can be used to perform hundreds of exercises.

The following are sample exercises using a jump rope, resistance band, medicine ball and stability ball:

■ Jump rope: Great for cardiovascular training.

■ Resistance band: Bicep curls (works front of arms). Hold handles and place bands under your feet. With your palms facing forward, bend your elbows bringing your palms toward your armpits. Lower, then repeat.

■ Medicine ball: Overhead tricep extension (works back of arms). With feet staggered and shoulder-width apart and ball grasped between hands, extend your arms directly overhead, close to your ears. Lower the ball by bending your arms directly behind your head until your arms are at a 90-degree angle. Extend your arms, and then repeat.

■ Stability ball: Wall squats (works legs and glutes). Find a sturdy empty wall and place the ball against it. Place your middle to lower back against the ball. Walk your feet slightly forward, still keeping the ball behind you. Lower yourself slowly toward the ground no lower than 90 degrees. Press through your heels and straighten your legs to stand back up. Repeat.

Complete one to three sets, 10-15 repetitions of each of these exercises. Remember to breathe and support your abdominals and back through each repetition.

Be sure to talk with your physician or fitness professional about developing a fitness program that can be done at home. He or she can instruct you on what weight and size equipment can best aid you in reaching your fitness goals. The purchase of fitness equipment alone will not make you fit, so it is extremely important to receive proper instruction of how and when to use the equipment you have selected. Do not invest in any equipment until you have a plan to utilize it.

Slowly grow your collection of fitness equipment. Purchase one piece of equipment and incorporate it into your fitness plan, then add another. As with large fitness equipment, if you don't put it to use, it will just collect dust.

Fitness equipment can be found at most sporting-goods stores. Two companies that I recommend are Spriproducts, Inc. (1-800-222-7774, www.spriproducts.com) and Perform Better (1-888-556-7464, www.performbetter.com). Both companies carry a large assortment of high-quality fitness equipment.

Always consult a physician before beginning an exercise program. If you have a fitness or training question, write to Andrea in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. ***((c) 2008 King Features Synd., Inc.)***

# Life & Style

# In the end, OJ Simpson comes up a loser in Vegas

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—In a city where luck means everything, O.J. Simpson came out the big loser - and his unlucky number in a case full of bizarre twists was 13.

He was convicted of an armed robbery that happened on Sept. 13 and was found guilty on the 13th anniversary of his Los Angeles murder acquittal. The Las Vegas jury deliberated for 13 hours after a 13-day trial.

AP

O.J. Simpson is taken into custody after being found guilty on all 12 charges, including felony kidnapping, armed robbery and conspiracy at the Clark County Regional Justice Center in Las Vegas on Friday, Oct. 3, 2008.

And then, as only the sobs of Simpson's sister broke the silence late Friday, the lights went out.

Court marshals flipped on flashlights and shouted for everyone to stay seated. Only the judge knew what had happened. It was 11 p.m. and the courthouse lights had shut down automatically.

"Timed out," Judge Jackie Glass said in a fitting epitaph for the story of O.J. Simpson, which has long haunted America.

The 61-year-old Hall of Fame football star was convicted of kidnapping, armed robbery and 10 other charges for gathering five men a year ago and storming a room at a hotel-casino to seize Simpson sports mementos - including game balls, plaques and photos - from two collectors. Prosecutors said two of the men with him were armed; one said Simpson had asked him to bring a gun.

After the verdict, Simpson, the sports-idol-turned-celebrity-pariah, was handcuffed and led from the room with his co-defendant, Clarence "C.J." Stewart. They could spend the rest of their lives in prison.

"There is justice," said attorney Gloria Allred, who has represented the family of his slain ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson. "Justice was delayed, but in this case it was not denied. Now that he may spend the rest of his life in prison, the law, and not O.J. Simpson, will have the last word."

Some observers said the Las Vegas case paled in comparison to the "trial of the century" in 1995, a yearlong opus in which Simpson was acquitted of murdering his ex-wife and her friend Ronald Goldman.

A rapt nation followed the Los Angeles trial. Tales of a gruesome murder and a bloody glove, as well as the celebrity defendant, drew a media frenzy.

In Las Vegas, Simpson's fate played out in a small courtroom dotted with empty seats. Even the stunning verdict came as most of America slept, oblivious to the irony that Simpson might spend the rest of his life in prison for what most perceived as a petty crime, a tussle among dysfunctional middle-aged men.

Simpson's Las Vegas defense tried to tell the jury that the two cases had nothing to do with each other, but it was a losing battle.

## *Some on OJ Simpson jury disagreed with 1995 acquittal*

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—The jurors in O.J. Simpson's armed robbery and kidnapping trial claimed a mixture of opinions about his acquittal on murder charges more than a decade ago, but all told attorneys they could set aside their feelings.

According to jury questionnaires released Saturday, five of the 12 jurors wrote that they disagreed with the 1995 verdict that cleared Simpson in the deaths of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman. Most others claimed to be uncertain or did not answer the question.

The Las Vegas jury of three men and nine women convicted Simpson and co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart of all charges stemming from a botched hotel-room heist a year ago. Both men could spend the rest of their lives in prison.

Redacted versions of the questionnaires were made public by Clark County District Judge Jackie Glass after The Associated Press and Stephens Media LLC, the owners of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, petitioned for their release.

As released, the 26-page, 116-question surveys blacked out some information about the jury, including hometowns, parents' occupations and details of past experience with the judicial system. The surveys were used to identify prospective jurors with biases and to reduce the jury pool.

They revealed the jury was largely made up of middle-age people who claimed to pay little or no attention to Simpson's past legal troubles.

The jury contained 11 people who identified as Caucasian and one who identified as Hispanic. There were two African-American alternates, but none who helped decide the case.

Asked about when she first heard of Simpson, 32-year-old Consuelo Saldivar, among the youngest jurors, replied, "A long time ago. I believe he was being chased down a freeway. That's about all I know."

David Wieberg, a 51-year-old manager, was among those who said he disagreed with the 1995 verdict.

"No, I don't believe the jury consider(ed) the facts," he wrote. Wieberg also said he agreed with the outcome of the civil trial that found Simpson liable for the deaths.


DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Martin Maratita Taisacan

**Born on June 17, 1945**
**Was called to his eternal rest in the grace of our Lord on Wednesday October 1, 2008, at the CHC at the age of 63.**

**He is survived by his wife:** ***Matilde Sablan Taisacan***

***Sons/Daughters & Families:***
Winefreda Taisacan Wilson/Blane C. (Blane Jr. & Austin)
Mark S. Taisacan/Sanjuana Maya (Kenneth John Manalo)
Elizabeth Taisacan Nena/Ronald I. (Meribel T. Nena)
Troy S. Taisacan
Jesse Jay S. Taisacan
Martina Matilde S. Taisacan

**Predeceased by:**
***Parents:*** (†)Clementi Saralu Taisacan & (†)Juana Atalig Maratita
***Parents In-Law:*** (†)Tomas Palacios Sablan, (†)Isabel Mendiola Cabrera Sablan
***Son:*** (†)Martin Jr. Sablan Taisacan

**Brothers/Sisters and In-Laws:**
Juan M. Taisacan/Merced Cabrera, Francisco M. / Juanita M. Taisacan, Cynthia T./Francisco San Nicolas, Maria T./Nicolas Omapas, (†)Mateo M./(†)Sabina Manglona Taisacan, Estanislao M./Balbina DLC. Taisacan, Lucia T./Aniceto M. Mundo, (†)Maria Magdalena M. Taisacan, and Atanacio Taitingfong.

**Sisters/Brother In-Laws:**
(†) Soledad S./(†)Francisco C. Basa, (†)Vicente /Maria M. Sablan, (†)Faustina S./(†)Femando M. Benavente, (†)Gregorio/(†)Victoria M. Sablan, Ana S./Henry T. Indalecio, (†)Jesus /Rita DLG. Sablan, Juana S./(†)Daniel T. Muna, Natividad C. Sablan/Raphael DLG. Demapan, Manuel C./Consalacion C. Sablan, (†)Rita S./Raphael Mettao, Maria S./Juana L. Ada, (†)Thomas (†) Francisca M. Sablan, (†)Maria DLR/Alfredo Gonzales, Isabel S./Melchor U. Maratita, Pedro/Ignacia M. Sablan, Margarita S./Jose Castro, Bernadita S./Isidro T. Cabrera, and (†)Joaquin/Grace C. Sablan.

***He is additionally, survived by numerous nieces, nephews, godchildren, cousins and friends.***

Mass is offered daily at San Antonio Church at 6:00PM, followed immediately with the Holy Rosary.

On Thursday, October 09, 2008, his remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home in San Jose to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30a.m followed by Responso & Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00a.m. followed by burial at Mr. Carmel Cemetary.

Your Thoughts & Prayers are greatly appreciated.

**From the Family**

# Placido Domingo sings at Mexico pyramid

**CHICHEN ITZA, Mexico** (AP)—Tenor Placido Domingo's choice of a classical program peppered with local music and help from Mexican pianist and crooner Armando Manzanero appeared to smooth the controversy surrounding his Saturday concert at the Mayan pyramids of Chichen Itza.

The Spanish-born Domingo grew up in Mexico, and enthusiastic fans in the southern state of Yucatan erupted in applause on Saturday at his "Concert of 1,000 Columns." Many here see it like a homecoming; one of Domingo's first performances was in Yucatan in 1957.

The performance at the foot of the eerily illuminated pyramid began with Mayan-style music performed by The Monumental Chorus of the Mayab, accompanied by Indian drums.

Despite intermittent drops of rain, Domingo opened masterfully with the inspiring "O Souverain" from Massenet's Le Cid.

"It is marvelous to be here," Domingo said during a break.

The estimated 4,000 fans attending seemed unconcerned about complaints that the concert and others like it exploit or misuse the 1,200-year-old Mayan ruins. The concert's name is a reference to a temple platform at Chichen Itza crowned by rows of columns.

"It is an honor for us to have a concert like this," said Armando de Leon from the nearby city of Merida.

Herman Segovia came all the way from San Antonio, Texas, to hear Domingo, whom he called "an artist of high quality."

"I don't think the site will be damaged. This is a controlled event," Segovia said.

Karen Eddy, originally of Toronto, Canada, traveled to the concert from her current home in Mexico City because "I though it would be magical, just magical" to see Domingo sing in front of the towering main pyramid.

Archaeologists and activists have complained that concerts like Saturday's expose ruin sites to additional damage and degrade their cultural significance by treating them as mere backdrops.

AP

Tenor Placido Domingo performs in concert at the Mayan ruins of Chichen Itza in the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico, Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008.

Mexico's federal government turns down most requests to hold concerts at ancient temples. But it faces increasing pressure from state governors to promote ruins which, critics argue, are already swamped with tourists.

Officials did impose limits on stage and seating structures and the number of spectators for Domingo's concert, ensuring that it would be smaller than tenor Luciano Pavarotti's 1997 appearance at Chichen Itza, which drew 18,000. Since then, more than a half dozen concerts have been held at or near the ruins.

Domingo planned to pepper the program with Zarzuela from his native Spain as well as music from Mexico. He even hinted he would sing in Mayan, the ancient language still spoken by about 1 million people in Yucatan and neighboring states.

The program also includes the melancholy, melodic "Lamento di Federico" from Francesco Cilea's "L'Arlesiana," and the soaring "Gia nella notte densa" from Verdi's Otello.

Manzanero—along with a Yucatan orchestra and choral group - will accompany Domingo on several numbers. Manzanero, a Yucatan native, is best known for his interpretation of ballads such as "Contigo Aprendi" and "Nada Personal."

# Tyler Perry unveils new studio in Atlanta

AP

Will Smith, left, is greeted by Tyler Perry at the unveiling of Perry's new motion picture and television studio in Atlanta, Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008.

**ATLANTA** (AP)—Tyler Perry unveiled a new multimillion-dollar TV and film studio Saturday on 30 acres in southwest Atlanta.

His renewed commitment to the city came after he once flirted with departing. Perry said he had considered leaving Atlanta for good after neighbors complained about noise and traffic at his old studio in a neighborhood close to downtown.

"Even though it was a studio there for 15 years, there was a lot of resistance in everything I was doing," Perry said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press earlier in the week. "I was thinking about leaving at one point, but this is home for me."

His new Tyler Perry Studios contains more than 200,000 square feet of studio and office space in an area that once housed Delta Air Lines' finance, reservation and computer center. It was vacant when Perry found it.

The guest list included Will Smith and his wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, Oprah Winfrey, Forest Whitaker, Hank Aaron and Whitney Houston. R&B singer Mary J. Blige was to perform.

Perry, 39, said the studio features five sound stages that will be named after Quincy Jones, Sidney Poitier, Ruby Dee and Cicely Tyson—with one still unnamed. He will shoot his TBS sitcoms "House of Payne" and "Meet the Browns" along with other film projects at the studio.

Perry said he knew the new location would be an improvement. His old building was on property zoned commercial, but the street next to it is residential.

"I knew spiritually I was in the wrong place," said Perry, whose projects include "Tyler Perry's the Family That Preys."

"You can never be upset with the people who forced you into your dream or up higher," he said. "They forced me out into a higher situation. It's worked out much better for me."

# Paris designers pull out the stops

**PARIS** (AP)—Paris designers sought a balance between showmanship and substance in their ready-to-wear displays on Saturday, as the fashion industry seeks new revenue sources to make up for the millions in Wall Street bonuses that have gone up in smoke.

With Western economies mired in a financial crisis, all eyes are turning to Brazil, Russia, India and China - the so-called BRIC economies, with an expanding middle class that is developing an appetite for luxury.

To capture these markets, brands must first spend thousands of dollars on high-profile catwalk shows that will generate acres of press coverage.

"Companies are hedging their bets by making certain that their sales are going up in the new markets," said Hilary Alexander, fashion editor of Britain's Daily Telegraph. "The Russian clients, the Indian clients, the Middle Eastern clients - they want glamour, they want pizzaz."

## HERMES

French luxury brand Hermes pulled out the stops, opening its Far West-themed show with a rare catwalk appearance by 1990s supermodels Naomi Campbell and Stephanie Seymour - but these cowgirls were like nothing you've seen in Texas

The models ambled down a fine sand runway dotted with giant cacti in outfits that had fashion editors silently scribbling wish lists.

Sheer poncho-style dresses, supple leather flared pants and fluid draped jersey dresses were the height of luxury, as were the cropped jeans in a perfect indigo denim hue.

AP

Supermodels Naomi Campbell, left, and Stephanie Seymour wear creations by French fashion designer Jean-Paul Gaultier for Hermes' spring-summer 2009 ready-to-wear fashion collection, Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008 in Paris.

Campbell, wearing a va-va-voom black gypsy dress, closed the show by tossing her straw hat into the audience with a flourish.

Front row guests included British actress Jane Birkin, who famously designed the Birkin bag, which has become a global byword for luxury. Hermes donates a portion of its profits to charitable causes on her behalf.

"They give a certain amount of money per year to the things I care about most, and that's really precious," Birkin told The Associated Press.

## CHLOE

French label Chloe is hoping for third time lucky with Hannah MacGibbon, its third creative director in as many years, after parting company with Swedish designer Paulo Melim Andersson, who failed to capture the subtle femininity of the brand.

MacGibbon showed a light, flirty collection of crisp cotton apron dresses and blouses with leg-o'-mutton sleeves trimmed with scalloped fins.

Chloe chairman and CEO Ralph Toledano said he was confident in the British designer, noting that she has been a member of the studio team since 2001 - working alongside Phoebe Philo, who doubled the brand's sales before leaving to spend time with her family.

"Chloe has always been a brand that speaks to women, so it is very plausible that one is better off having a woman speak to women than a man," he told The AP.

A word to MacGibbon: shorts with gathered paper-bag waists are not what women want.

## JOHN GALLIANO

"This is where they kill the chickens," said a male guest, only half-jokingly, as he walked past a group of men huddling around an abandoned shopping cart on his way to the John Galliano show, held in a warehouse in a working class Paris suburb that was the scene of rioting in 2005.

It was just as well local residents could not see Galliano's models parade in their towering Marie Antoinette wigs, or there might have been a second French Revolution.

The extravagant coifs and plumed headgear did a good job of distracting attention from the clothes, which were largely forgettable.

Galliano, whose pendulum has swung back to slick commercialism after several seasons of theatrically unbridled shows, showed anoraks with drawstring pleating and military trims. Only when the evening gowns came out did one perceive a glimmer of the British designer's unparalleled romance.

## KENZO

At Kenzo, Italian designer Antonio Marras showed outfits in botanical prints swarming with ribbons, pearls and shells inspired by the Lewis Carroll novel "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland."

Sprigs and blossoms in Victorian watercolor shades bloomed on a floorlength cream chiffon gown that was draped over one shoulder.

Tunics and jackets made from a patchwork of patterned silks sprouted folds in the back, while silver sequins nestled in the fuzzy mohair petals of a knitted dress.

For the finale of the show, the oversized books that formed the backdrop opened to reveal giant flower pop-ups, to the delight of the children that several guests had brought with them to the show.

# Janet Jackson delays 3 more shows due to illness

**GREENSBORO, N.C.** (AP)—Janet Jackson has postponed three more shows because of an undisclosed illness.

Her publicist said in an e-mail late Saturday that Jackson was postponing a Saturday show in Greensboro, N.C., one on Sunday in Atlanta and a third on Tuesday in Fort Lauderdale.

A statement from Jackson said she arrived in Greensboro, N.C., hoping to perform there Saturday, but a local doctor advised that she not perform after it became "evident" she was not fully recovered.

Representatives for the 42-year-old singer say she became "suddenly ill" and was hospitalized Monday night in Montreal shortly after she arrived for a show. She also canceled concerts in Boston and Philadelphia on Wednesday and Thursday.

Jackson's publicist did not elaborate Saturday, only saying she was "recuperating." The note said Jackson will return home, at her doctor's direction, for further treatment.

In this Sept. 17, 2008 file photo, singer Janet Jackson performs during her concert in Los Angeles. AP

In the note Jackson asked people to keep their tickets for the postponed shows, and said the promoter is working to reschedule dates.

Jackson is on her first North American tour in seven years.

# Springsteen rocks Obama rally in Philly

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Bruce Springsteen called the Bush presidency "a disaster" and said many Americans have "justifiably lost faith" in the American dream.

The legendary rocker interrupted a seven-song acoustic set at a voter-registration rally in Philadelphia on Saturday to praise Democrat Barack Obama and bemoan the crises facing the next president. Springsteen said that America remains a house of dreams for some, but that too many people have given up on the promise of fairness and equality.

"I've spent 35 years writing about America and its people and the meaning of the American promise - a promise handed down right here in this city," said the New Jersey rocker, whose songs often depict down-on-their-luck, working-class dreamers. "Our everyday citizens ... have justifiably lost faith in its meaning."

The rally, planned by the Obama campaign a week ago, drew tens of thousands of people to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Springsteen approached the campaign and asked to help out, an Obama aide said. The Philadelphia event came just days before Monday's voter registration deadline in Pennsylvania.

"The Boss" also plans to perform at Obama gatherings in Ohio on Sunday and Michigan on Monday. On Oct. 16, he will join Billy Joel at an Obama fundraiser in New York City.

Springsteen cited the Iraq war, the recent economic turmoil and Hurricane Katrina as examples of the Bush administration's failures. He bookended the set with his rock classic "Promised Land" and Woody Guthrie's folk anthem, "This Land is My Land."

The Obama camp says its registration efforts have helped give Democrats a 1.2 million-voter advantage over Republicans in Pennsylvania, up from a 580,000-voter lead in 2004. The most recent Quinnipiac University poll, conducted late last month, showed Obama with a 54 percent to 39 percent lead over Republican John McCain among likely state voters.

AP

Bruce Springsteen performs at a free outdoor concert in support of Democratic presidential candidate, Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., and in a push for voter registration in downtown Philadelphia Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008.

## *Colombian singer Shakira lends support to Obama*

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Colombian superstar Shakira says Democrat Barack Obama is the best candidate for president, citing his leadership skills.

In a statement Saturday, the Grammy-winning pop artist said Obama can restore peace and the world's confidence in the United States. Obama faces Republican presidential nominee John McCain in the Nov. 4 election.

Obama said he was honored to receive the singer's endorsement. The Illinois senator praised Shakira as a role model for young Latinas in the U.S. and beyond.

Shakira encouraged U.S. Latinos to vote in November.

The United States "has a profound importance to me, and I think to the whole world as well," she said.

AP

Radio host Howard Stern and girlfriend Beth Ostrosky attend a Cinema Society screening of "Stop-Loss" at the IFC Center, in this Thursday, March 20, 2008 file photo taken in New York.

# Shock jock Howard Stern, Ostrosky tie knot in NYC

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Shock jock Howard Stern has embraced tradition. The radio talk show host known for hosting porn stars married his longtime girlfriend, Beth Ostrosky, on Friday.

"I can't wait to marry Howard," she told Newsday before the ceremony at Manhattan's tony Le Cirque restaurant, adding, "I know, everyone laughs!"

The bride wore a white chiffon gown with cutaway back and sides. Officiating at the ceremony was actor Mark Consuelos, Kelly Ripa's husband and an ordained minister.

The 180 guests included Joan Rivers, Barbara Walters, Billy Joel, Steve Schirripa, Chevy Chase, Tommy Mottola, and Donald and Melania Trump.

They dined on tuna tataki, scrambled eggs with white truffles and striped bass with caviar—washed down with wine and champagne. Songwriter Phoebe Snow serenaded the newlyweds with "You Send Me," and Joel crooned "The Stranger."

The wedding is an about-face for the media maverick, who once worried on the air that marriage to the model could spoil a good thing.

"It's a nice feeling that we get along great," he said in 2006. "We're very happy, and I don't want to (blank) it up."

# Husband is racked by guilt despite avoiding temptation

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been happily married for a number of years. I'm not what you would call "hot"—far from it, actually. But for some reason, women have always been attracted to me.

It doesn't matter where I work, there always seems to be some woman coming on to me. I have never cheated on my wife -- never! I have always told the interested party that I'm married and love my wife and kids, and would never do anything to destroy what we have.

About a year ago, my wife and I hit a rough spot. I met a woman who was having problems with her boyfriend. We were attracted to each other and became quite close. We never did anything physically. We never spoke of love, and both recognized that we were only infatuated.

My problem is this is the first time I was really tempted. I resisted, thank God, but feel terribly guilty about it. My head says telling my wife would help relieve my guilt, but nothing else. Ultimately, it would hurt her.

Because nothing actually "happened," should I listen to my head, or should I go with my heart, which says to tell her everything? This is eating me up inside.

CONSUMED BY GUILT IN N.Y.

**DEAR CONSUMED: Perhaps it's time to take a good look at your conduct at work and the kind of signals you're sending to female co-workers. For one or two of them to come on to you might be accidental in a lifetime. But if they're coming on to you in droves as you suggest, it's because you're sending out signals that you're available.**

**I see nothing to be gained by telling your wife that you "almost" committed adultery. To do so will only create insecurity where once she had complete confidence. Nothing happened, and for that you are to be commended. Because you feel the need to expiate your guilt, confide in a trusted religious adviser who will keep your confidence. And please stop flirting with danger, or you WILL get burned.**

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** To my grown children's dismay, I am in love with a man who is in prison for murder. He still has a lot of time left to serve, and I'm older than he is.

I send him money -- my money -- and write him almost daily. My son thinks I'm "wasting my time," but I am happy. Any opinion?

MARY IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

**DEAR MARY: If you are happy, then far be it from me to rain on your parade. However, I must caution you. Inmates have been known to write to multiple "pen pals," involving them in romances and milking them for money. If you wish to continue with this arrangement, please do it with your eyes wide open.**

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Our first child is nearly a year old, and I am planning his first birthday party. My in-laws and my parents do not get along, and my in-laws have threatened not to come if my parents are present.

My husband and I have made it clear that we do not agree with this. We feel they should be able to put aside their differences for one day for the sake of their grandchild. Should we bend to their stubbornness and have two separate birthday parties—one for each side of the family?

TORN IN ILLINOIS

**DEAR TORN: Absolutely not. To do so would set a terrible precedent. Make sure your husband's parents know the time and place of the celebration and that they are welcome. If they choose not to attend, then so be it.**

---

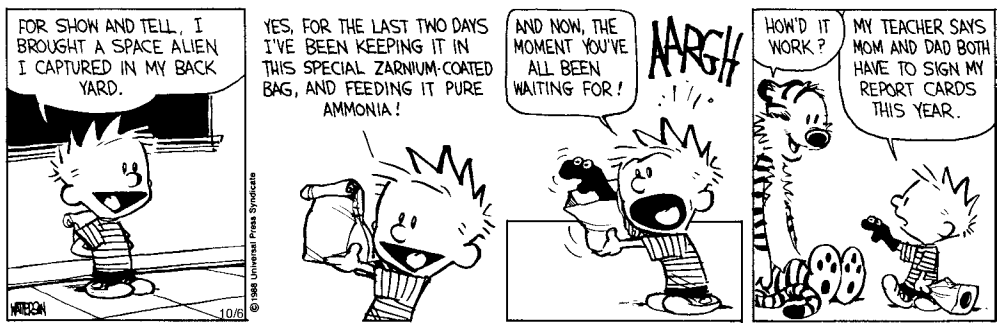
*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


FOR SHOW AND TELL, I BROUGHT A SPACE ALIEN I CAPTURED IN MY BACK YARD.
YES, FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS I'VE BEEN KEEPING IT IN THIS SPECIAL ZARNIUM-COATED BAG, AND FEEDING IT PURE AMMONIA!
AND NOW, THE MOMENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!
AARGH
HOW'D IT WORK?
MY TEACHER SAYS MOM AND DAD BOTH HAVE TO SIGN MY REPORT CARDS THIS YEAR.
© 1988 Universal Press Syndicate
10/6

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT A COAT AND TIE ARE REQUIRED FOR DINNER
GARFIELD
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Text GARFIELD to 22646 US ONLY
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
DON'T YOU GET ANY GRAVY ON THOSE!
JIM DAVIS 10-6

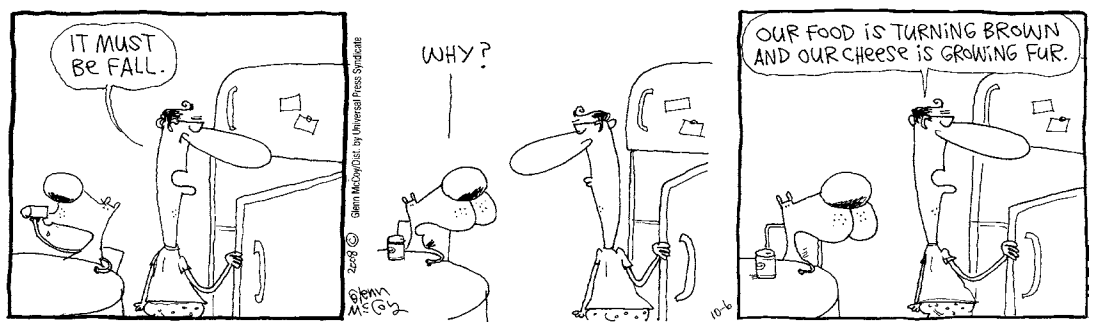
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

KATY, WHAT'S WRONG?
MY CLASS FIELD TRIP TO THE ZOO HAS BEEN CANCELLED BECAUSE OF COST-CUTTING MEASURES.
WHO KNOWS? THAT TRIP MIGHT HAVE INSPIRED ME TO BECOME A ZOOLOGIST!
INSTEAD, THIS COULD BE THE DECISIVE MOMENT THAT LEADS ME ON A PATH TO BECOMING AN ECONOMIST.
SNIFF WIPE
WAHHHHHHH
10/6
WWW.GOCOMICS.COM

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy




## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

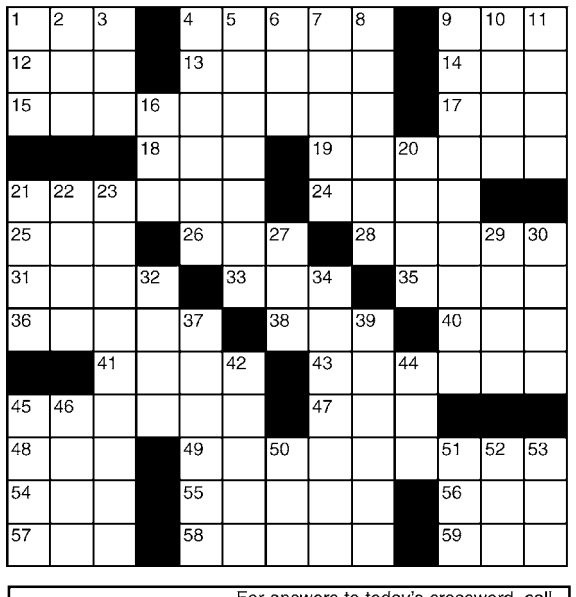
**ACROSS**
1 Fizzle
4 Senior moments?
9 Earl Grey, e.g.
12 Swiss canton
13 Pass the baton
14 Peruke
15 Stand-up comic's repertoire
17 Raw rock
18 Peron or Gabor
19 Puts into words
21 Honor
24 Half (Pref.)
25 "Go, team!"
26 Roman X
28 Impersonate
31 Occupant of a pink nursery
33 Pooch
35 Carthaginian queen
36 Slumber
38 Vacillate
40 "Smoking or —?"
41 Dumbo's "wings"
43 Ungracefully tall and thin
45 Marionette
47 Movie-cataloguing org.
48 Rd.
49 Poker player's bluff
54 Meadow
55 Golfer Palmer, to fans
56 Schuss
57 Consume
58 Frankfurter side dish
59 Storm center

**DOWN**
1 Pair
2 Samovar
3 Conk out
4 Hedge shrub
5 Changed the title
6 Bullring bravo
7 Swampy area
8 Method
9 Being unfaithful to
10 Leprechauns' land
11 Quite some time
16 Sheltered side
20 Surrounded by
21 Work units
22 Take to the lake
23 Win after win after win
27 Present
29 Pedestal occupant
30 Rabbit
32 Bound
34 First man in space
37 Quick-to-build house
39 Blunders
42 Mall unit
44 Zero
45 Ashen
46 Layer of 59-Across
50 Italian article
51 Work with
52 Firmament
53 Waste no time

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G | A | B | ■ | D | A | M | P | ■ | G | A | I | T |
| O | W | E | ■ | E | M | I | R | ■ | U | N | D | O |
| G | O | V | ■ | E | A | S | E | ■ | I | N | O | N |
| O | L | Y | M | P | I | C | M | E | D | A | L | S |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | Y | E | N | ■ | I | K | E | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| D | J | I | N | N | ■ | H | U | E | ■ | D | A | W |
| N | O | V | A | ■ | S | A | M | ■ | D | I | R | E |
| A | N | Y | ■ | I | Q | S | ■ | A | I | M | E | D |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | S | T | U | ■ | A | T | M | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| M | I | C | H | A | E | L | P | H | E | L | P | S |
| I | D | L | E | ■ | E | E | R | O | ■ | A | L | E |
| R | E | E | D | ■ | Z | O | O | M | ■ | K | E | N |
| O | A | F | S | ■ | E | S | N | E | ■ | E | A | T |

Saturday's answer 10-6



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Hannah Bridges, 18; Amy Jo Johnson, 38; Elisabeth Shue, 45; Britt Ekland, 66

**Happy Birthday**: This can be a year to remember if you focus on what's most important to you. Career changes may tempt you but be sure you have the required skills. It isn't about how much, it's about what works. Less can be more if it allows you to strive for perfection and be the very best at what you do. Your numbers are 2, 3, 14, 27, 32, 34, 47

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Don't go overboard because someone else does. It's nice to feel in control but sometimes it's not the best route to take. Don't promise what you can't deliver and you will avoid an embarrassing set of circumstances. ✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Use your keen sense of fair play along with past experience to help you achieve. A business trip or educational pursuit will bring high returns. Keep things simple, listen and observe. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Don't overspend to impress. Wasting money on products that promise to change your life must be avoided. You can out-talk anyone who challenges you. A creative project will be lucrative. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): You'll be pulled in several directions today. Choose what suits you best or go where you know you can accomplish the most. Emotional matters will escalate if you try to talk about the situation. ✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You'll be looking for a good fight with someone who has been causing you grief. When it comes to physically doing what you say, it won't be that easy. Keep a low profile and concentrate on your job. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take hold of a situation that is festering and stifle whatever is going on. You can make some worthwhile alterations to a partnership that has been strained. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You are likely to end up causing a ruckus if you gossip or exaggerate. Problems at home are apparent, especially if you are trying to change things. Costly ventures will set you back further than you anticipate. ✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Look for new ways to make more cash. You have to diversify in order to make ends meet. Personal problems can be dealt with by making a couple of changes to your schedule that allow you quality time with the one you love. ✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't give up on someone or something because of the effort involved. Travel or communications can lead to life-altering changes that will cause some worry initially. Let go of the past and you will see how much easier it is to move forward. ✪✪✪

**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't give in to anyone putting demands on you today. Love is in the stars and a meeting with someone you've always been attracted to will prove to be beneficial both personally and professionally. Change is upon you. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Secrets will lead to trouble. Be open and deal with the consequences head-on so you can put them behind you. It's time to think about your future and how you can make more money and improve your way of living. Don't be fooled by someone who's complimentary. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Get out and sell your ideas and concepts to people who can foot the bill and help you achieve your goals. A partnership can be formed that is complementary to all involved. You can resolve an old feud with someone you miss. ✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are original, creative and like to do things in a big way. You are curious, inventive and drawn to the unusual. You support the underdog.

*Eugenia's Web sites:* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 6 | | 1 | 2 | | 7 | |
| | | 1 | 4 | | | | | 6 |
| 8 | 2 | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | | | 6 | 4 | | | 9 |
| 3 | | | 2 | 7 | 5 | | | 1 |
| 7 | | | 3 | 8 | | | 5 | |
| | | | | | | | 4 | 8 |
| 9 | | | | | 1 | 2 | | |
| | 4 | | 8 | 5 | | 3 | | |

Difficulty Level ★ 10/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| 1 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 2 |
| 5 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 3 |
| 7 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 9 |
| 2 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 9 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 4 |
| 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 8 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/04

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**THE SECRET WORLD OF BACTERIA** **Solution: 8 letters**

S E I R O T A R O B A L S T V
S E Z I S U E G N A R R A E R
S R N E S E C R U O S E R R P
S E L S S M E H S I D S E R M
T O I L E P O P V I A S E I O
R H L T E T M V A T I Y C T L
U E W L I U A D I S I R T O E
C R C A L V A L T N O G E R C
T E O C R P I A S S G R R I U
U H L T T T N T C N U O P A L
R T O I Y C I O C T A W R L A
E A N V E N P N L A V R E A R
S G Y A C I D U G E N E T I C
E M I T C N C W A R N I N G S
T H R E A T L S W A P P I N G

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Activate, Activities, Adapting, Cells, Clumps, Colony, Culture, Dish, DNA, Emit, Gather, Genetic, Grow, Instinct, Interpret, Laboratories, Microscopic, Molecular, Moving, Prey, Rearrange, Repel, Resistance, Resources, Roles, Sense, Sizes, Structures, Swapping, Territorial, Threat, Thwarting, Translate, Versatility, Warnings

**Last Saturday's Answer: Pinnacle**

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Welcome with open arms

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**1996-1998 Nissan Sentras 4Dr**
Auto with or w/o AC
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For Inquiries,
please call **288-7261/8887268**

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

WELCOME A R M S

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**235-NEWS**

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*Saipan Tribune* also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

| ADS (7DAYS) | COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|---|---|
| • 3-Liner | $25 |
| • 5-Liner | $35 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | $45 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | $55 |

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday And Sunday Issues:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

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DANILO T. AGUILAR, F0198
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 505301
First Floor, San Jose Court Bldg.
Cor. Ghiyeghi St. & Wischira Way
San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
TELEPHONE: (670) 234-8801
FAX: (670) 234-1251

Attorney for Plaintiff
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL SAIPAN, INC.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL SAIPAN INC., Plaintiff, v. AARON TAWNEY AND AGNELIA TAWNEY, Defendants. | ) ) ) ) ) ) ) | CIVIL CASE NO. 08-0268 **SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION** |

**TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT: AARON TAWNEY**

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after the service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Law Offices of Danilo T. Aguilar, whose address is P.O. Box 505301, First Floor San Jose Court Bldg., Cor. Ghiyeghi St. & Wischira Way, San Jose, Saipan MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

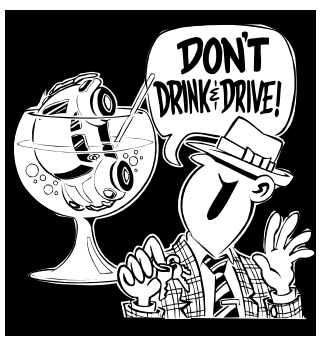
Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at the Guma Hustisia, Susupe, Saipan MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of the Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment of default may be taken against you for the relief in the complaint.

By order of this Court.

Clerk of Courts
Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana Islands

Dated this_____day of September, 2008.




**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**State Board of Education, Public School System**
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950
***Human Resources Office***

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It is the policy of the Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School Personnel System shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Public Law 6 - 10, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin. Applicants for this position must be a U.S. Citizen or be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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Pay Level/Step: **VI-VIII / 03-05** Per Annum Salary: **$30,976.96 - $35,837.44**
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# Wait 'til next year, again: Cubs eliminated by LA

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—It's a century and counting for the Chicago Cubs.

Manny Ramirez and the Los Angeles Dodgers shoved Chicago into another long winter Saturday night, completing a three-game sweep of their first-round playoff series with a 3-1 victory.

The Cubs' latest flameout has to be among the most galling, considering they fell flat against the Dodgers after their best regular season since 1945.

James Loney hit a two-out, two-run double in the first to get Los Angeles started, and Hiroki Kuroda worked 6 1-3 brilliant innings in the first postseason outing of his career.

The three wins boosted first-year manager Joe Torre's postseason total to 79—the most in baseball history. His first 76 came in the last 12 years as skipper of the New York Yankees, including 16 in four World Series triumphs.

After earning their first postseason series win in 20 years, the Dodgers will face Philadelphia or Milwaukee in the best-of-seven NLCS starting Thursday—at Philadelphia should the Phillies win, at Dodger Stadium should the Brewers prevail.

And the Cubs head home without having come close to their first World Series triumph since 1908. They have lost nine straight playoff games, including three to Arizona in the first round last year.

While the Cubs clinched the NL Central on Sept. 20 and won a league-high 97 games, the Dodgers had a losing record as recently as early September before turning things around behind Ramirez. They went 84-78 and won the NL West, baseball's weakest division.

Make no mistake, the Dodgers dominated this series, outscoring Chicago 20-6 thanks in part to a lot of help from the bumbling Cubs. Cursed or not, they were outplayed in every way, committing six errors and doing a woeful job of hitting with runners in scoring position.

The Dodgers, meanwhile, entered having won only one postseason game since beating Oakland in the 1988 World Series. They tripled that output against the Cubs.

AP

Chicago Cubs' Geovany Soto reacts after losing to the Los Angeles Dodgers, 3-1 in Game 3 of baseball's National League division series in Los Angeles, Calif., Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008.

Ramirez, who hit .396 with 17 homers and 53 RBIs in 53 games after joining the Dodgers in a deadline-deal trade, went 1-for-2 and scored a run, giving him five hits in 10 at-bats with two homers, five runs scored and three RBIs in the series. Rich Harden (0-1) walked Ramirez intentionally twice.

Kuroda, a 33-year-old rookie who signed a $35.3 million, three-year contract with the Dodgers last winter, scattered six hits before being relieved by Cory Wade with two on and one out in the seventh. Kuroda never appeared in a playoff game during 11 seasons with the Hiroshima Toyo Carp of the Japanese Central League.

This wasn't Kuroda's first outstanding performance against the Cubs—he shut them out on four hits while striking out 11 on June 6 at Dodger Stadium.

The Cubs were pretty awful in the first two games at Wrigley Field, where they were an NL-best 55-26 during the regular season. Game 1 starter Ryan Dempster matched a career high with seven walks in 4 2-3 innings in a 7-2 loss, and each of the four Chicago infielders committed errors in Game 2, leading to a 10-3 setback.

A move to Los Angeles didn't help the Chicago offense, which scored a league-leading 855 runs this year. The Cubs had only four hits in 17 at-bats with runners in scoring position in the first two games before going 1-for-11 in Game 3.

At least the long-suffering Cubs fans weren't around to boo them in Game 3, although the Dodger Stadium faithful made up for that.

Russell Martin hit a one-out double in the first and took third on a single by Ramirez. After Harden struck out Andre Ethier, Loney hit a liner down the right-field line, giving the Dodgers a 2-0 lead and sending the towel-waving fans into an early frenzy.

Loney's fifth-inning grand slam off Dempster in Game 1 erased the Cubs' only lead of the series.

Rafael Furcal walked with one out in the fifth and scored on a double by Martin, making it 3-0. Harden was lifted after intentionally walking Ramirez for the second time, and Sean Marshall came on to retire Ethier and Loney.

The Cubs got their run in the eighth off Wade on a leadoff double by Derrek Lee, who had three hits, and a two-out RBI single by pinch-hitter Daryle Ward. Jonathan Broxton relieved and struck out Mark DeRosa to end the inning, and worked a perfect ninth with two more strikeouts to earn a save.

Harden allowed five hits and three runs in 4 1-3 innings. He had gone 5-0 with a 1.99 ERA in his last 10 starts of the regular season.

The Cubs put two runners aboard with two outs in both the first and third innings, but Kuroda worked out of trouble each time, retiring Geovany Soto to end the first and Aramis Ramirez to finish the third, both on grounders to third baseman Casey Blake.

Soto doubled to open the fourth and took third on an infield out. But after Soto stayed at third on another groundout, the Dodgers walked Ryan Theriot intentionally before Kuroda fanned Harden for his first strikeout of the game. That would be the first of eight straight batters Kuroda would retire until Theriot's infield single with one out in the seventh.

Kosuke Fukudome, benched after going hitless in eight at-bats in the first two games, followed with a single in his first at-bat after entering the game as part of a double-switch. Wade worked out of trouble by retiring Alfonso Soriano on a fly to right and Mike Fontenot on a liner to center.

### Brewers 4, Phillies 1

At Milwaukee, the Milwaukee Brewers got three hits from J.J. Hardy and a sharp outing from Dave Bush to beat the Philadelphia Phillies and stave off elimination in the Major League Baseball playoffs.

Back home at Miller Park, Prince Fielder and Ryan Braun each had a sacrifice fly for Milwaukee, making its first trip to the postseason since 1982. Hardy and Jason Kendall added RBI singles.

After pitchers CC Sabathia and Yovani Gallardo flopped in Philadelphia, Bush allowed one run in 5 1-3 innings to help send the best-of-five National League Division Series to a fourth game on Sunday.

Three relievers stymied the Phillies before Salomon Torres worked a rocky ninth inning for the save. Philadelphia loaded the bases with no outs and Pedro Feliz hit a double-play grounder to shortstop that appeared to drive in Ryan Howard.

But Shane Victorino, who hit a grand slam off Sabathia in Game 2, was called for interference when he didn't slide into second. The runners were sent back to second and third, and Carlos Ruiz tapped back to Torres to end the game.

The Brewers managed just three runs and seven hits as the Phillies won the first two games convincingly. But Milwaukee showed some patience at the plate in Game 3 that was noticeably lacking in Philadelphia.

Mike Cameron and Bill Hall, two free-swinging Brewers, walked with no outs in the first against Jamie Moyer, known for his control. Both runners moved up on a wild pitch before Fielder hit a sacrifice fly to right with one out.

Hardy followed with a run-scoring single to give Milwaukee a 2-0 lead.

# Beckett, Red Sox look to finish the Angels off

**BOSTON** (AP)—The Los Angeles Angels might have thought they caught a break when they didn't have to face Red Sox ace Josh Beckett in Game 1 of their first-round playoff series.

Turns out, they'll have to get past him to keep their season alive.

Beckett said Saturday he's ready to pitch in Game 3 of the best-of-five AL playoff series against Los Angeles. That means that if Angels lefty Joe Saunders is going to force a Game 4 on Monday, he'll have to do it against Beckett, one of the best postseason pitchers in baseball history.

"He loves that pressure situation," Red Sox reliever Justin Masterson said. "When you have a 2-0 lead on the board and Josh Beckett on the mound, it's a great feeling. He's one of my favorites to watch.

"What we need to do is jump on them early. In baseball terms, we have to jump on their throats and not give them any momentum."

Beckett has won five consecutive postseason starts dating to Game 6 of the 2003 World Series, when he pitched a five-hit shutout on three days' rest to help Florida eliminate the Yankees. He won all four of his postseason starts last year, when Boston swept the Angels in the first round en route to its second championship in four seasons.

In all, Beckett is 6-2 with a 1.73 ERA in the postseason—the third-lowest playoff ERA ever for pitchers with at least 40 innings.

"The stage, or the size of the game, he doesn't shrink from that," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said. "I think he looks forward to the challenge. He has pitched in some unbelievable games—not just in the postseason. But when you get to the postseason, he has been some kind of pitcher."

Indeed, Beckett has been plenty good in the regular season, too.

He was the only 20-game winner in the majors last year, going 36-18 in his first two seasons in Boston as he became the ace of the staff. But this season he was just 12-10 with a 4.03 ERA while fighting off right elbow tendinitis in August and a strained oblique muscle that scratched him from the regular-season finale.

With Beckett pushed back from his presumptive series-opening start, Jon Lester and Daisuke Matsuzaka filled in at Anaheim and staked the Red Sox to a 2-0 lead in the series. Now Beckett will have a chance to eliminate the team that had beaten Boston eight straight times while going a major league-best 100-62 in the regular season.

"We haven't seen what won us 100 games in the regular season out there. We haven't seen our team on the field," manager Mike Scioscia said. "That's what's been frustrating for us.

"I hope it's not going to be business as usual for us as far as what we've done the first two games. We need to press the offense. We need early runs. ... That's how we won, and it's going to take contributions from everybody in the lineup to do that."

That will include center fielder Torii Hunter, who hyperextended his left knee in Friday night's game, a 7-5 loss. Scioscia said Hunter would skip batting practice on Saturday but be ready to go on Sunday.

The Red Sox have some injuries of their own.

Third baseman Mike Lowell, who played in the first game but sat out the second, is planning to play in Game 3 (and any other games in the series). Right fielder J.D. Drew, who hit the game-winning homer in the ninth inning of Friday night's game, said he was still trying to figure out how his back would respond.

Hunter could have been speaking for all the banged-up players when he said, "A cross-country flight is not the best treatment."

Nor is facing Beckett.

"I'll tell you, he's game on," Hunter said. "He comes in ready to pitch. We know that. We have to be patient and wait for our pitches.

"There still is confidence. We've played well on the road. I know we're a pretty good team. It's about getting everybody together and row the boat together."

They don't have much time left, and they're relying on a playoff rookie to keep the Red Sox from sweeping the Angels out of the postseason for the third time in a row since 2004.

"I welcome the opportunity. I'm just itching to get out there and put up some zeros and give us a chance. It's what we've been trying to do all year," Saunders said. "Everybody's told me the postseason is a different ballgame, so (I'm) just looking forward to getting out there and playing."

# Ridings, Howell share Turning Stone lead

**VERONA, N.Y.** (AP)—Tag Ridings stood over his ball at the final hole and gently tapped a short uphill putt for par. When he pulled it and his ball stopped just shy of the cup, he found himself tied for the lead in the Turning Stone Championship.

Seeking his first PGA Tour win, Ridings wasn't dismayed as he pondered playing the final round in a twosome with Charles Howell III.

"I putted really well, especially the first two rounds," Ridings said Saturday after shooting a 1-under 71 to match Howell (69) at 8 under. "Today, I made a couple that kept me hanging in there."

Ridings has missed 12 cuts this year, including six in a row, and entered Turning Stone winless in 130 PGA starts.

AP

Tag Ridings tees off on the second hole during the third round of the Turning Stone Resort Championship golf tournament in Verona, N.Y., Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008.

"I've been in position a lot out here and haven't gotten it done," Ridings said. "But a lot of times I have gotten it done on other tours, so it's not quite an alien experience."

Jeff Overton (73), who led both the first and second rounds by one shot, was tied for third at 7 under with Brian Davis (69), Jason Day (71) and Kyle Thompson (69).

Another shot behind were Dustin Johnson (70) and Robert Allenby (71), while Davis Love III (66), Charles Warren (67), and Mark Hensby (72) were tied at 5 under.

Because of two weather delays on Friday, 23 players failed to finish the second round and had to complete it Saturday morning. Love, coming back from an ankle injury suffered a year ago, then reeled off four straight birdies on the back nine to start the third round and move into contention, an early indication the 7,482-yard Atunyote Golf Club course might be playing easier because the weather wasn't quite so harsh. The players also were allowed to lift and clean their balls.

Ridings trailed Overton by one shot at the start of play and played the front nine to even par with a pair of birdies and two bogeys. He sank a 23-foot birdie putt to reach 8 under at the par-3 11th hole and gained a two-shot lead with a 16-foot birdie putt at No. 15 as the sun broke through and the temperature rose into the mid-50s.

Overton never mounted a charge. He bogeyed No. 1, reeled off 13 straight pars, and made bogey at 15 to fall to 6 under as he sputtered with his putter for the second straight day. Overton, who needed 34 putts on Friday, had 32 on Saturday but rallied with birdie at 16, his only birdie of the day.

"It'd be nice to be in the clubhouse and put some pressure on the other guys," Overton said. "I can't really dwell on the bad putts. I felt like I hit a lot of good ones. Sometimes you just have those days they don't drop."

Hensby, who began the day three shots behind, made three birdies on the front side and another at the par-5 12th hole to take sole possession of the lead at 9 under, one shot ahead of Ridings and Thompson.

Hensby's lead didn't last long. He bogeyed Nos. 13 and 14, just as Thompson had done only moments earlier. Thompson sank a 58-foot birdie putt at No. 15 to join a logjam of six players at 7 under.

"You could take all the putts I made Thursday and Friday and they wouldn't add up to that one," said Thompson, who finished with his third straight birdie at 18.

The first two days were plagued by temperatures in the 40s, 20 mph wind, rain, and even a brief shower of hail that caused one of two delays Friday.

The fickle conditions continued Saturday. Although there was just a slight breeze and the sun was in and out of the overhanging clouds, a misting rain again began falling while the lead threesome was playing the front nine and the temperature hovered around 50, forcing the players to again wear layers and fight to keep warm and loose.

"It was not nice. I can tell you the holes it was warm on," said Love, who hadn't played a tournament since mid-August and whose best finish this year is a tie for 19th at the British Open. "I've got to get my confidence back, get into contention and win a few tournaments."

Love, a 19-time winner on tour, opened the tournament with a 3-over 75 that included 37 putts. Aside from a 15-footer and a 6-footer, the longest putt he made Thursday was 3 feet, and his total distance of made putts added up to only 47 feet.

It was much different Saturday. Love, who began the day nine shots off the lead and started at the 10th hole, made a strong charge from the start. He hit to 5 feet and made birdie at the par-4 10th hole, rolled in a 27-foot birdie putt at the par-3 11th hole, hit to 7 feet and made birdie at the par-5 12th, and finished the rush by hitting inside 3 feet at the par-4 13th hole to surge into contention.

With the sun expected to shine on Sunday, the course figures to be a little more forgiving. And with Love anxious for a win and Allenby, 13th on the money list and in the hunt, Howell knew what to expect.

"There's so many good players up there at the top, and with the golf course being as soft as it's going to be tomorrow, and with the guys that are up there, there's going to be a lot more birdies made than the first three days," Howell said. "I'm sure."

# Pachulia aches while homeland burns

**ATLANTA** (AP)—While war raged in his homeland, Zaza Pachulia ached from afar.

He was a Georgian stuck in American Georgia, unable to return to his native country after the Russians invaded over the summer.

"My mom, cousins, grandparents, friends ... they're all back there," said Pachulia, the Atlanta Hawks' rugged center. "It's especially tough when you live in a country like Georgia. It's a small country. Everybody knows you."

When someone asked how his loved ones were doing, he shot back: "The whole country is my family."

Imagine his anguish as he watched the Russians rout the outgunned, outmanned Georgians, causing widespread destruction in the tiny nation of 3 1/2 million people before an uneasy peace prevailed. Pachulia, like the rest of the world, saw disturbing television images of a country going up in flames.

His country.

"I was here this summer when that was going on and Zaza came into my office," Hawks coach Mike Woodson recalled. "He was almost in tears. You could tell he was hurting. There was nothing he could do. He was pleading for help."

Pachulia

Stirred to action but prevented by travel restrictions from getting home, Pachulia went on Atlanta-based CNN and its worldwide audience to appeal for an end to the conflict. Never one to pay much attention to politics, he took part in a downtown rally that drew Georgians from both his country and the U.S. state that's now like a second home.

"I'm not going to judge what happened," he said. "I just want peace."

The Hawks opened training camp this week, and the 6-foot-11 Pachulia insists that he's firmly focused on helping them get back to the playoffs. The team is counting on him to follow up on his feisty play in the postseason, when he stood up to Kevin Garnett and helped Atlanta go seven games with the eventual NBA champion Boston Celtics.

Away from the court, Pachulia still keeps tabs on the folks back home.

"At least people are not dying anymore," he said. "That's the main thing. I'm not a politician. Of course, I am worried about my country, but I can't do anything about it right now."

He's eager to see if the Russians follow through on a planned pullout next week, especially with tensions running high on both sides and new developments emerging almost every day.

Patrols by the European Union have brought a sense of normalcy to the devastated country. Then again, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin on Thursday accused Ukraine of aiding Georgia during the brief war, potentially drawing another nation into the dispute.

"The conflict isn't over," Pachulia said. "They call it a cold war now. The troops are still there. I know the 10th of October is the date the Russians have to leave Georgian territory. I'm just going to wait and hope. They've said a lot of times they were going to leave. I don't know ..."

His voice trails off.

"I wonder," Pachulia said sadly, "if there's any houses left that have not been bombed."

While unable to get home, he did join the Georgian national team, which was forced to play entirely on the road during qualifying for the 2009 European championships. The inspired squad won three of four games, the only loss by two points to Sweden.

"It was very special for me," Pachulia said. "We wanted to show Europe and the rest of the world that we were still alive. There's bombing going on and people are dying in my country, but we're still here."

He holds no hard feelings toward the Russian people. Utah's Andrei Kirilenko is one of his best friends. Pachulia has formed a bond locally with Ilya Kovalchuk and Slava Kozlov, Russian-born hockey stars who play for the Atlanta Thrashers.

"This shouldn't affect our friendship," Pachulia said. "I'm sure they want the same thing I do. They want peace also. It doesn't matter if it's Russians or Georgians. Human life is very important."

He's coming off a disappointing regular season for the Hawks, his playing time taking a big hit at the hands of rookie star Al Horford. After averaging 12.2 points and 6.9 rebounds the year before, Pachulia managed just 5.2 points and 4.0 rebounds in 2007-08.

But Pachulia came alive in the playoffs. In Game 4, Garnett threw an elbow going for a loose ball. Pachulia got right in his face, going forehead to forehead with the Celtics star. No punches were thrown, but the fired-up Hawks went on to even the series.

After stretching it to a seventh game, the Hawks were blown out in Boston. But Pachulia seemed to regain the trust of Woodson, who's ready to hand him a bigger role off the bench.

"I shortened the rotation last year, and he was part of that rotation. He probably felt like he didn't get the minutes he wanted to get," Woodson said. "As a coach, I've got to help him, stay positive with him, because we're going to need Zaza to help us win basketball games at a high level. He's always been a big part of what we've done here. I want him to know that."

For his part, Pachulia worked harder that usual over the offseason. He actually knocked off a few pounds, but improved his strength. The Hawks want the 24-year-old to become more physical in the lane and take some of the burden off the 6-10 Horford, a bit undersized for a center.

"I know Zaza can do that," Woodson said. "It's just a matter of him getting in there, feeling good about himself and getting the job done."

Pachulia is certainly in control of what he does on the court.

His homeland is a different story, but he hopes others will heed the lessons of this summer's brief but brutal war on the other side of the world.

# Sixers near Rotary sweep

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The San Antonio Sixers moved a win away from sweeping the regular season of the 2008 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League after outlasting the Southern Sonics, 63-55, Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Sixers gained their seventh win in as many games and will go for a sweep and the pennant title against the defending champion CNMI Junior Nationals on Oct. 15.

The trio of Ernest and Matt Duenas and Joe Ada worked wonders for the Sixers, as they combined for 47 of the team's total output.

Ernest led all scorers with 21 points, while Matt and Ada chipped in 14 and 12 markers, respectively.

The game was still tied at 42-all, when a 10-0 run put the Sixers in control of the game, 52-42, going into the last three minutes of the match.

Ada scored six points in that spurt, while Ernest had four. Matt also had successive baskets, making four straight markers to give the Sixers a safe distance, 56-44, entering the final two minutes of the game.

The Sonics never recovered from thereon and dropped to a 1-6 record. This could have been the Sonics first defeat, but five of their six wins were forfeited last week after they fielded an ineligible player in the 18-and-under caging.

ROSELYN B. MONROYOI

The Sonics' Leo Galarse, left, challenges the defense of the Sixers' Ian Benavente, who later blocked the shot during their game in the Rotary caging Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Leo Galarse scored 15 points on a losing cause and was the lone double figure scorer for the Sonics.

In Friday night's game, the Rollers I notched their second straight victory after whipping the Suns, 91-59.

The Rollers I improved to a 4-3 record after outgunning the Suns.

The Joe Diaz-mentored squad fired 10 triples against the Suns only two.

Manny Matagolai paced the Rollers I with 16 points and drilled two triples. Brandon Aurelio nailed three shots from downtown and added 11 markers. Ten other Rollers I players made it into the scoreboard for the team's balanced offense.

Juan Maratita topscored for the Suns with 17 points.

### Thursday's Game

**Sixers 63** – E. Duenas 21, M. Duenas 14, Ada 12, Pepito 10, Flores 4, Benavente 2.

**Sonics 55** – Galarse 15, Eclevia 8, Ajoste 5, Chan 4, Metran 4, Echon 4, Cadiang 2, Catap 2, Dela Cruz 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 26-25, 63-55.

**Referees:** Gilbert Espinosa and Eric Artillaga.

### Friday's Game

**Rollers I 91** – Matagolai 16, Aurelio 11, Concepcion 9, A. Camacho 9, E. Camacho 7, Teregeyo 6, Danas 6, Paez 6, Castro 5, Ogarto 4, Namelo 2.

**Suns 59** – Maratita 17, Yamada 7, Brel 6 Kiyoski 6, Lisua 4, Fleming 2, Calvo 2, Babauta 2, Salas 1.

**Scoring by halves:** 46-31, 91-59.

**Referees:** Gilbert Espinosa and Eric Artillaga.

## Technical meeting for govt/biz softball league tomorrow

Tournament commissioner Joey de la Cruz said there would be a technical meeting for team representatives tomorrow, Oct. 7, for the upcoming 2008 Inter-Government/Business Softball League.

The meeting will start at 9:30am at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room.

"We are requesting all team representatives to attend. We will discuss, amend and adopt the ground rules for this season," Dela Cruz said.

He said waiver and roster forms would be distributed during the meeting.

The Division of Sports and Recreation earlier set the opening of the league on Oct 7.

There will be two divisions—men and women with the games to be played at the Miguel "Tan Ge" C. Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Registration is still ongoing as organizers are inviting the private sector to join. The deadline for submission of entries and payment registration fee will be on Oct. 22.

The entrance fee for both divisions is $400.

A total of 19 teams joined the previous tournament last April.

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs won both the men's and women's division titles.

There will be three games per night, which will be held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday starting at 6:30pm for the first game, 7:30pm for the second game, and 8:30pm for the third game.

The league will adopt a single round-robin format with the Top 10 teams advancing to a double elimination in an add/drop by team's second game format.

Games for the women's division will be played every Monday and Friday starting at 7:30pm.

The regular season will be three rounds while the playoffs will be all-in double elimination, also in an add-drop by team's second game system. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

## CNMI

*From Page 28*

the driver's seat, 49-44.

The fourth quarter was a seesaw battle until Fiji got the breaks in the closing minutes of the game to place fifth in the tournament. CNMI settled for sixth.

Australia ruled the tournament as expected, trouncing Tahiti in the finals, 95-48. Guam finished third, whipping New Caledonia, 92-60. Papua New Guinea placed seventh after downing Palau, 79-52.

**Fiji 65 –** Sikivou 21, Whippy 12, Price 7, Liebregts 6, Serulagilagi, Chambers 5, Puamau 2, Raravula 2, Savua 2.

**CNMI 63 –** Cruz 23, Tumaquip 19, Tarkong 10, Rabauliman 5, Babauta 2, White 2, Moses 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 21-15, 33-32, 44-49, 65-63.

## RESTRICTIVE

*From Page 28*

peted in 100m and 200m races, while the CNMI's beach volleyball squad was composed of Tyce Mister and Mark McDonald (men's) and young guns Melissa Halaby and Nina Mosley (women's). SPG veteran Russ Quinn coached the CNMI spikers.

Table tennis and lawn tennis were interested to compete in Samoa, but have players who are non-U.S. citizens.

The CNMI's table tennis team, which was composed of Chinese, Filipino, and Nepalese players, won a bronze medal in the 2005 South Pacific Mini Games in Palau. CNMI netters Kana Aikawa, Todd Montgomery, Tim Quan, and player-coach Jeff Race also participated in the Mini Games in Palau.

Of the four CNMI bets, only Aikawa does not hold a U.S. passport thus despite showing interest to represent the Commonwealth in Samoa, she failed to make it to the SPG last year. Aikawa holds Canadian and Japanese passports, but honed her tennis skills in the CNMI since she was in grade school and was a gold medalists in the women's singles and mixed doubles in the 2006 Micronesian Games.

## RANGAMAR

*From Page 28*

with the CNMI and Palau tied at 13-all after the opening period.

But the CNMI began taking control of the game in the second period after limiting Palau to nine points in that canto.

After Sweety Kalbesang's basket moved Palau within one, 22-23, the CNMI answered with six straight points and silenced its foe in the last four minutes of the second period to take a 29-22 halftime lead.

Rangamar drilled seven of the CNMI's 16 points in the second period to give the Commonwealth a seven-point advantage.

The CNMI cagebelles increased the lead to 16 points, 50-34, entering the fourth period, as Rangamar led the CNMI's breakaway in the second half when she drilled 10 of their 21 points in the third period, making two triples.

The CNMI never looked back from thereon, relegating Palau to last place.

Rangamar finished with 31 points, finding her range early as she connected on three triples in the first period. Noelle Calvo chipped in 12.

Australia's Opals prevailed the in title match against Tahiti, 108-32, while Fiji won the battle for third place beating Guam, 75-66.

Papua New Guinea finished fifth, topping New Caledonia, 90-64

**CNMI 64** – Rangamar 31, Calvo 12, Bennett 6, Wonenberg 5, Mesa 4, Lebria 3, Diaz 3.

**Palau 51** – Tamakong 16, Kalbesang 15, Je. Mersai 7, Kelulau 4, Ja. Mersai 4, Ngemaes 3, Ubedei 2, Hanser 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 13-all, 29-22, 50-34, 64-51.

## OFF

*From Page 28*

team standings but Off Twice were in sixth position based on the number of sets won so far in the two-week old tournament.

The teams with 2-1 cards were third-running Enyophace, which have seven sets won; fourth MHS Oakies with six, Thai One On (five), and Off Twice (four).

Two teams remained undefeated so far with Acme Roofing on top with 3-0 and Karakuchi in second with 2-0.

Thai One On and Kimoichi posted the other two victories last Thursday.

After losing its first game of the season, Thai One On beat MHS 67 Doh-Fins in straight sets, 21-12, 21-15, 21-18. They lost to Acme Roofing last Sept. 25 before prevailing over MHS Oakies on Sept. 30.

Kimochi finally barged into the win column via a similar lopsided 21-6, 21-12, 21-10 decision over MHS Serves Up!. Earlier, they lost to Enyophace on Sept. 23 and to MHS Peers last Sept. 25.

It was the second straight defeat for Serves Up!, who are 0-2 and are in ninth place.

MHS 67 Doh-Fins and Champ-on remained winless after three outings to occupy the 10th and 11th spots, respectively.

The Doh-Fins have more sets won with three compared to Champ-on's one.

In points scored against a team, Enyophace is leading with 186, Acme Roofing with 172, Tahi One On (168), MHS Oakies (163), Kimoichi (148), Doh-Fins (148), Off-Twice (140), Karakuchi (121), MHS Peers (103), Champ-on (87), and Serves Up! (58).

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### TURNING STONE RESORT CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

**VERONA, New York** (AP)–Scores Saturday in the Turning Stone Resort Championship, a $6 million (4.3 million euro) U.S. PGA Tour event at 7,482-yard, par-72 Atunyote Golf Club:

**THIRD ROUND**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Charles Howell III | 71-68-69 | 208 |
| Tag Ridings | 69-68-71 | 208 |
| Kyle Thompson | 71-69-69 | 209 |
| Brian Davis | 71-69-69 | 209 |
| Jeff Overton | 67-69-73 | 209 |
| Jason Day | 69-69-71 | 209 |
| Dustin Johnson | 72-68-70 | 210 |
| Robert Allenby | 71-68-71 | 210 |
| Davis Love III | 75-70-66 | 211 |
| Charles Warren | 73-71-67 | 211 |
| Mark Hensby | 70-69-72 | 211 |
| Robert Garrigus | 72-72-68 | 212 |
| Joe Ogilvie | 75-69-68 | 212 |
| Woody Austin | 74-69-69 | 212 |
| Pat Perez | 71-72-69 | 212 |
| Steve Allan | 68-74-70 | 212 |
| Ryuji Imada | 72-71-69 | 212 |
| Mathew Goggin | 71-70-71 | 212 |
| Brad Elder | 71-69-72 | 212 |
| Vaughn Taylor | 75-69-69 | 213 |
| Paul Claxton | 70-72-71 | 213 |
| Briny Baird | 70-72-71 | 213 |
| Tom Pernice, Jr. | 72-73-69 | 214 |
| Steve Elkington | 73-71-70 | 214 |
| Sean O'Hair | 73-71-70 | 214 |
| Bo Van Pelt | 70-73-71 | 214 |
| Troy Matteson | 70-73-71 | 214 |
| Nick O'Hern | 71-72-71 | 214 |
| Harrison Frazar | 72-70-72 | 214 |
| Tommy Gainey | 71-74-70 | 215 |
| Shane Bertsch | 75-71-69 | 215 |
| Kevin Stadler | 71-75-69 | 215 |
| Bob Sowards | 74-69-72 | 215 |
| James Driscoll | 76-71-68 | 215 |
| Kent Jones | 70-74-72 | 216 |
| Johnson Wagner | 73-73-70 | 216 |
| George McNeill | 73-71-72 | 216 |
| Richard Johnson | 76-71-69 | 216 |
| Patrick Sheehan | 72-76-68 | 216 |
| Michael Allen | 68-74-74 | 216 |
| Steve Marino | 75-73-68 | 216 |
| Brandt Jobe | 71-75-71 | 217 |
| J.J. Henry | 74-72-71 | 217 |
| John Senden | 73-71-73 | 217 |
| Joe Durant | 71-75-71 | 217 |
| Carlos Franco | 69-78-70 | 217 |
| Ryan Moore | 74-74-69 | 217 |
| Rich Beem | 74-74-69 | 217 |
| Peter Lonard | 78-67-73 | 218 |
| Bob Estes | 72-74-72 | 218 |
| Tim Wilkinson | 73-71-74 | 218 |
| Brett Rumford | 73-71-74 | 218 |
| Y.E. Yang | 74-72-72 | 218 |
| Scott Sterling | 70-76-72 | 218 |
| Kevin Na | 72-71-75 | 218 |
| Dicky Pride | 76-71-71 | 218 |
| Olin Browne | 72-71-75 | 218 |
| Todd Demsey | 72-71-75 | 218 |
| Ryan Armour | 74-74-70 | 218 |
| Nathan Green | 73-75-70 | 218 |
| Michael Bradley | 75-73-70 | 218 |
| Carl Pettersson | 73-73-73 | 219 |
| Brad Adamonis | 74-73-72 | 219 |
| Chad Collins | 72-75-72 | 219 |
| Mathias Gronberg | 74-74-71 | 219 |
| Cody Freeman | 74-72-74 | 220 |
| Steve Flesch | 74-73-73 | 220 |
| Nick Watney | 77-70-73 | 220 |
| Casey Wittenberg | 74-74-72 | 220 |
| Parker McLachlin | 73-75-72 | 220 |
| Joey Sindelar | 77-71-72 | 220 |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Plenty of surprises on the pigskin plate

By BRAD E. RUSZALA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Miller Lite Beer of the Islands
WEEK 5
MILLER LITE PIGSKIN
PICKS OF THE WEEK
WEEK 5
NFL
HUNTER
BLANCO
NABORS
SMITH
BIG MAHI
RUSZALA
BALTIMORE TENNESSEE BALTIMORE TENNESSEE BALTIMORE BALTIMORE
CAROLINA CAROLINA CAROLINA CAROLINA CAROLINA CAROLINA
CHICAGO CHICAGO CHICAGO CHICAGO CHICAGO CHICAGO
GREEN BAY GREEN BAY ATLANTA GREEN BAY GREEN BAY GREEN BAY
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PHILADELPHIA PHILADELPHIA PHILADELPHIA PHILADELPHIA PHILADELPHIA PHILADELPHIA
DENVER DENVER TAMPA BAY TAMPA BAY TAMPA BAY DENVER
BUFFALO BUFFALO BUFFALO BUFFALO BUFFALO BUFFALO
DALLAS DALLAS DALLAS DALLAS DALLAS DALLAS
NEW ENGLAND NEW ENGLAND SAN FRANCISCO NEW ENGLAND NEW ENGLAND NEW ENGLAND
JACKSONVILLE JACKSONVILLE JACKSONVILLE JACKSONVILLE JACKSONVILLE PITTSBURGH
NEW ORLEANS NEW ORLEANS MINNESOTA NEW ORLEANS NEW ORLEANS NEW ORLEANS
GUARANTED PICK OF THE WEEK
NEW ORLEANS
GREEN BAY
BALTIMORE
BUFFALO
DALLAS
INDIANAPOLIS
QUOTE RECORD
8-5
9-4
5-8
5-8
7-6
7-6
OVERALL
My Guaranteed Pick Of The Week has to go out to the gang in New Orleans. It will be Mardi Gras for the fans. In a Monday night home game in the Super Dome fueled by the leadership of Drew Brees and the wheels of Reggie Bush and Deuce McCallister, the Saints should be able to knock Minnesota down to 1-4.
Although Green Bay had a rough time last weekend in Tampa Bay, I predict they will rebound against Atlanta and pull off the win. I truly feel that Rodgers will suit up and play his heart out, which is all Green Bay can hope for. On another note, I'm just glad that William Hunter's birthday is coming up this Oct. 9, because he is definitely going to need that to cheer him up after he loses to me again this weekend. Happy birthday Will!
This week's pick is goin' to yup you guessed it, the Baltimore Ravens! I know, I know they lost last week but it was a hell of a game. Pittsburgh pulled one outta their fafas and saved Ruszala's backside. It's okay, Ray made up for it by hittin' Medenhall so hard it broke his shoulder... damn! Lookin' like number 99 out there. Tennessee 13, Baltimore 21
I love the Buffalo Bills almost as much as I love back bacon and Molson Golden, but this week is going to be tough in Arizona. As sure as Brian Mulroney was Canada's second most handsome man in history (next to me, of course), the Bills will outlast the Cardinals on the road. They'll beat the birds, but it'll be a tough one down there in Phoenix. At least Jeff Turbitt will be there cheering for the Bills.
My Guaranteed Pick Of The Week is Dallas over Cincinnati. It's gonna be a big wide receiver match-up between TO and Ocho Cinco. But TO has a better QB throwing to him, and a overall better team. The winless Bengals are, along with the Rams, about the worst team out there right now.
I can't see how anyone would pick against the Colts in Houston this week. Sure, I know Peyton Manning isn't 100 percent yet, but he's good enough at 80 percent to beat the Texans. I'll take Peyton Manning without his left arm and one leg (you choose) with a gimpy Marvin Harrison over the woebegone Houston Oilers, errr, Texans.

What seemed to be cake walk through the Week 5 of the National Football League schedule proved to be more of a walk through a mine field as a number of teams and our prognosticators suffered unexpected losses last week.

It was certainly a painful exercise for Monday Night Football's competitors as the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Baltimore Ravens literally beat the snot out of each other. The Steelers prevailed in front of their home crowd with a thrilling 23-20 overtime victory, but it came at a price.

The Heinz Field squad entered the game without starting running back Willie Parker and lost both their second and third stringers along the way. That's a tough pill to swallow for a team that earns its bread and butter between the tackles.

The Ravens took a bruising last week as well, but they face a completely manageable Titans team on Sunday while the Steelers stare at a slugfest with the Jaguars in Jacksonville. The Jags traditionally play Pittsburgh tough at home and away, so the injured Ben Roethlisberger will have an uphill battle in the Sunshine State.

Speaking of losses, nobody thought that the Washington Redskins would hand the Cowboys a loss in Dallas, but that's exactly what happened at Texas Stadium. Most analysts had already handed the NFC Championship to "America's Team," if not the Super Bowl, before the game. Then Jason Campbell and company spoiled the Jessica Simpson after party with a 26-24 win.

All of a sudden, the NFC East looks somewhat even. The Giants are still undefeated, and the defending Super Bowl champs are a force to be reckoned with. Same goes for the Philadelphia Eagles. The only thing is that they lost what many thought to be a "gimmie" against the Chicago Bears.

Instead of Donovan McNabb smiling his way to first place in the division, the Eagles sputtered to a 24-20 loss on the road to Kyle Orton's offensively challenged squad of blue collar monsters. If you're a fan of football at any level, you have to admire the way the Bears held the Eagles late in the game with a goal line stand.

It's hard to rally the boys early in the season, but the Bears "manned-up" when the game was on the line. Think they have what it takes to get back to the Super Bowl? Eh, maybe not. But Bears fans have to believe they can win any game from here on out based on that goal line stand alone.

Jets fans have to be feeling pretty good, too. Their 56-year-old quarterback led New York to a 56-35 victory over the Arizona Cardinals, and he looked good doing it. Brett Favre threw an interception early, but Vince Lombardi's older brother quickly recovered and brought the J-E-T-S, Jets, Jets, Jets back into the realm of respectability once again.

Even though they're home is Phoenix, Arizona, the Cardinals aren't looking too hot. Sure, Kurt Warner and company posted 35 points on the Jets, but the fragile quarterback threw three interceptions and fumbled the ball away so many times that it looked like he was doing it on purpose.

If he can control his turnover trouble, Warner might be able to stop the Buffalo Bills. Can you believe that the Bills are 4-0? It's the first time since 1991 that Ralph Wilson's team has reached that mark. The last time was en route to their second of four consecutive Super Bowl appearances.

I'm harboring no ideas of the Bills playing at Raymond James Stadium on Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, but anything could happen. The only thing is that the Bills traditionally play poorly in Tampa Bay. But then again, what do I care? I'm happy if they make it to the Super Bowl. Who knows what would happen if the Bills actually won the thing?

**Plenty of surprises on the pigskin plate**

What seemed to be cake walk through the Week 5 of the National Football League schedule proved to be more of a walk through a mine field as a number of teams and our prognosticators suffered unexpected losses last week.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

**Wait 'til next year, again: Cubs eliminated by LA**

It's a century and counting for the Chicago Cubs. Manny Ramirez and the Los Angeles Dodgers shoved Chicago into another long winter Saturday night.

24



# Restrictive eligibility rules upheld

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Pacific Games Council decided to uphold the eligibility rules implemented in the 2007 South Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa allowing only U.S. citizens or citizens of the islands/nations they are representing to compete in the 2009 South Pacific Mini Games in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

The decision came after the Charter Review Committee submitted its proposal to revert to the old rules used in the 2005 South Pacific Mini Games in Palau, giving expatriates and longtime residents of the island they are representing a chance to join the SPG and Mini Games.

Executive Council disapproved the committee's recommendation during a meeting held in Rarotonga last month thus the proposal was put into a vote with only seven islands/nations favoring the rules implemented in 2005.

It requires a two-thirds vote or 28 affirmative votes from 41 eligible voters to approve the proposal. The charter review committee proposal drew only 14 affirmative votes.

White

The CNMI is one of the PGC member-islands which voted in favor of the eligibility rules used prior to the Apia Games, as the Commonwealth has many longtime residents who wanted to compete in the SPG and Mini Games.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White, who attended the Cook Islands meeting and was a member of the Charter Review Committee, delivered the bad news to CNMI sports officials in last week's NMASA meeting.

"I shared the disappointment of the membership that we were not able to secure a change in the eligibility rules. Because of the way the matter was presented to the Council, I was not able to propose the amendment which we previously discussed that would have allowed people who competed prior to 2005 to compete in the future," White said in a report made available for NMASA members.

"I will submit this proposed amendment at the Council meeting which will be held during the Games next year. If passed, it would take effect for the 2011 Pacific Games in Noumea, New Caledonia," he added.

The "citizens only" policy in the 2007 edition of the South Pacific Mini Games in Apia was the reason why the CNMI only sent a lean delegation to Samoa last year.

The Commonwealth participated only in athletics and beach volleyball. Tyrone Omar com-

See RESTRICTIVE on Page 26

# CNMI cagers finish 6th after loss to Fiji

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A New Caledonia player, center, is sandwiched by CNMI defenders Marvin Rabauliman, left, and Bill Babauta, right, during their game in the 7th FIBA Oceania Youth Tournament at the University of Guam Fielhouse last week. The CNMI cagers played Fiji in their last game Saturday night, and lost the close match, 63-65.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Nationals figured in the closest game in the 7th FIBA Oceania Youth Tournament, engaging Fiji in a nail-biting finish before bowing out, 63-65, last Saturday at the University of Guam Fieldhouse in Mangilao.

The CNMI and Fiji battled for fifth place with the latter stealing the win after holding the former to two points in the last four minutes of the game.

The CNMI cagers still led by four, 61-57, when they missed several shots and committed errors allowing Fiji to recover and grab the victory.

A Jomary Tumaquip triple off a Jericho Cruz feed gave the CNMI a 61-57 lead, with 4:01 left in the game.

But Waymann Whippy quickly answered with his own triple, moving Fiji within one, 60-61, with 3:44 remaining on the clock.

Jayvan Tarkong and Marvin Rabauliman muffed their shots in the CNMI's ensuing offensive plays, and the Commonwealth's bets continued to suffer misfortunes when Tumaquip and Rabauliman committed turnovers.

CNMI coach Rufino Aguon breathed a sigh of relief when Jericho Cruz nailed a basket giving his team more breathing space, 63-60, with 2:30 left in the fourth period.

Fiji continued to threaten the CNMI when Josefa Serulagilagi made a bucket, cutting the lead to one anew, 62-63. Rabauliman tried to bring the lead back to three, but missed an undergoal stab, going into the last two minute of the game.

Rabauliman attempted again, but was blocked by Martin Liebregts and Fiji sprinted to their front court for its offensive set. Fiji muffed two shots, but grabbed the offensive rebounds paving the way for a Jesse Sikivou layup and giving Fiji the lead, 64-63, with 40 seconds left in the game.

Both teams traded misses in the succeeding plays with the CNMI muffing its chance to regain the lead when Cruz faltered in his layup in the last four seconds of the match.

Whippy got the rebound and was fouled by Cruz. The Fiji gunner made his first charity and missed the second, but teammate Orisi Naivalurua secured the offensive board and time expired preserving Fiji's victory.

Fiji led in the first period, 21-15, and hung on to a 33-32 lead at halftime. The CNMI made its move in the third quarter, limiting Fiji to 11 points to grab

See CNMI on Page 26

# *Rangamar lifts cagebelles to lone win in FIBA caging*

WWW.FIBAOCEANIA.COM
The CNMI's Nicole Lebria, left, defends against a player from Tahiti during a fastbreak play in Pool A of the 7th FIBA Oceania Youth Tournament at the University of Guam Fielhouse last week.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI cagebelles will not go home empty-handed after all.

Lia Rangamar went 6-for-10 from downtown to lift the CNMI to a 64-51 win over Palau in the last day of the 7th FIBA Oceania Youth Tournament Saturday at the University of Guam Fieldhouse in Mangilao.

The lone win saved the CNMI from finishing last in the tournament, as it placed seventh out of the eight teams that competed in the week-long caging.

The race for the first win in the tournament was close in the first half

See RANGAMAR on Page 26

# Off Twice bounces back past Champ-on

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Off Twice reverted to its winning form beating Champ-on, 21-11, 21-14, 10-21, last Thursday night in the 2008 Miller Lite Four-Person Beach Volleyball League at the Pacific Islands Club sand court.

Lindsey Sosovec, PIC Saipan Sports manager, teamed up with Alex Hammet, Yumi Sheri, and Amanda Armstrong to power Off Twice to an outright win by taking the first two sets as they bounced back from a loss to Enyophace in their previous assignment.

The win created a four-way tie for win-loss records in the

See OFF on Page 26

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
Off Twice team captain Lindsey Sosovec serves in the second set of their 21-11, 21-14, 10-21 victory over Champ-on last Thursday in the Miller Lite 4-Person beach volleyball league at the PIC sand court.